



# 网游之 纵横天下

失落叶 出品

一起看中文网签约作品





网游之  
**纵横天下**

失落叶 出品

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lang="en">

# **Virtual World - Conquering the World -**

## **Chapter 01-22**

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# Chapter 1



*Hi all, I am a fan of this web novel, and it gives me great pleasure to introduce a new web novel for you readers out there.*

*This novel is from the same author who wrote the novel: Shaura's [Wrath](#) as translated by [Sylver Translations](#) and [ChinaNovel.Net](#), as well as [Unparalleled under the sky](#) as translated by [Shiroyukineko Translations](#).*

*I will try to release at least one chapter a week. But you know me, sometimes I give you a surprise by giving more than 1 chapter.*

*This is the secret project I have been doing in my spare time on weekends.*

*The beginning of this story is hilarious! Hope you enjoyed it.*

=====

There is a beautiful girl lying on my bed.

She was just lying there quietly. Her elegant and refined face was flushed red, her eyelashes seemed to be quivering. Her neck was as white as white jade. Underneath her shirt, her twin peaks stood upright and tall.

Looking at her chest that seemed to heave up and down as she breathes, a man would be suffocated by the pressure of trying to suppress his lust. I swallowed my saliva nervously as my glance shifted downwards. She had kicked the quilt apart, exposing a pair of slender, sexy legs under her pink coloured mini-skirt.

Seeing the slender curves on this woman's body, I could not help gasping. This woman is a natural stunner!

"Please wake up, Miss!"

I gently shook her arm to wake her up, but she did not respond. I sighed, got up and was about to leave. Suddenly she woke up and hugged me around my neck, and she seemed to cry. I could faintly make out her words: "Why did you do this to me ..... do this to me ..... ?"

She seemed to be feeling grieved by matters of the heart. Her wet tears quickly dripped onto my clothes, but I did not notice this. My attention was focused on the wonderful feeling of her boobs as it rubbed against my chest. Looking down, I could see her cleavage. I felt embarrassed – at this moment, my body seemed to react on its own and I was having a massive erection.

My hands seemed to have a will of its own, as it moved to enveloped her in a hug. The rich fragrance of her scent seemed to drift towards my nose, fascinating my sense of smell. For a moment, I just stood her absorbing the smell of her fragrance and hugged her.

She cried softly, and her shoulders seemed to tremble slightly, but she did not push me away. Instead, she seemed to return my hug. The feeling of her soft breasts on my body could not be described in words.

Hallelujah! My face was full of tears as I silently thanked God for sending me a beauty.

I am a normal man, and like all man, I always prayed that God will send me a beauty. All this while, God never replied to this fantasy of mine. Who knows that God really answers prayers? Today, my chance had finally arrived!

The woman hugging me is the prettiest woman I have ever seen in all 24 years of my life. I have no doubt that God finally had mercy on me, and grant me such a beautiful and rich woman.

But, reality is cruel, and things did not proceed as I would have liked. Just when I was about to take advantage of the situation to kiss her, this girl suddenly forcefully shoved me away, and cried, "I am so hungry...."

For a moment, just a brief moment, I was rendered speechless. Did she cry

because she was hungry?

Therefore, I got up with the intent to cook something for her to eat. But I discovered that she had also stood up. Suddenly, she seemed to look at me as if this is the first time that she had seen me, and let loose a horrifying shriek that threaten to blow apart my eardrums.

“Pow!”

Before I could say a word, my keyboard that was lying on the floor was taken and smashed against my head. After which, I was forcefully pushed out of the room, and with a “click” the door was locked.

“Yi? This seemed to be my room....”

I stood there like a stunned vegetable for a moment while I collected my wits. Then I knocked on the door, “Hey miss, that’s my room, let me in? Miss, please don’t lock me out of my room!”

.....

But there was no reply, nor was there even any noise from the other side of the door. I ran to the balcony, and stole a glance through the window. She had already snuggled herself on my bed, and the quilt seemed to envelop her. She seemed to be sleeping soundly.

I sat down hard on the floor. “What in the world is going on? Isn’t she the girl that God had sent me?”

As I was sitting there, lost in my thoughts, my glance suddenly seems to be focused on an item in the living room. This girl’s stuff is still in the living room. Creeping close, I saw that one of the items was half a bottle of wine. There was also a big, round item that was placed in a bag, and I have no idea what it was.

Curiosity got the better of me, and I could not resist taking a look. To my astonishment, this round item is actually a game helmet that is often advertised online.

.....

On the helmet, there were two flamboyant characters printed on it: <<Ling Tong >> (Spirit of Grief!)

I was surprised. This is a helmet for the Spirit of Grief game.

About half a year ago, a game created a global media frenzy when it declared the release of a new game. This was because the company that stands at the apex of the gaming industry, Yue-Heng Group, spent 10 years to create this game. The reputation of this company attracted many players. All the players across the world who tried this game described this game as “Irreplaceable”. And the name of this game is called Spirit of Grief.

According to rumors, “Spirit of Grief” was created by using a new “human brainwave bridging” technology. This allows players to have a wide variety of sensory stimulation, and achieve close to 100% game realism! Moreover, the “Spirit of Grief” was reputed to have a superb storyline. It was also reputed to have epic equipment for players. Finally, the NPC girls in the game were ultra-realistic and super pretty. It was rumoured that it is possible to have harems full of these beautiful NPCs.

Therefore, after the last virtual reality game gradually lost its popularity, gamers across the globe all set their sights on the “Spirit of Grief”. Many gamers had sold all their gaming equipment for their last game to raise funds to purchase this new game. They were preparing to show off their skills in this new game, and hopefully create a legend!

And today, is the day that the game “Spir of Grief” is officially launched. To all the gamers in the world who were eagerly anticipating this game, it is a super important event.

But, who is the girl in my room? Does this mean that she is not the woman that God had destined for me?

Oops, I forgot to tell you how this beauty ended up in my room. That only happened a few minutes ago.

I don't know when did a new white BMW stop at the ground floor of my building.

I also did not pay it much attention. Not long after, I heard the sound of sinister laughter from the men below. I put my head out of the window to take a look, and saw several thugs there surrounding the BMW. They were smiling sinisterly, and I could hear them say “This is a woman. Let's drive the car away

and take the woman home. Hehehehe, she is really a beauty.....”

At that time, I was shocked. Wasn’t this group of thugs arrested by the police? How did they had returned back here so fast?

If the person inside the car is a girl, won’t something bad happen to her? But if I go out now, perhaps I can save her?

Therefore, I immediately rushed down the stairs, and walked towards the BMW.

The thugs saw me, and immediately shouted a challenge: “Hey you kid!! What the f\*\*k do you think you are trying to do?”

A feeling of disgust rises in my gut. I stepped away from the crowd of men and put my hand on the car’s door. With a “chuck” sound, the lock suddenly opened!

From the car, there was a strong smell of beer. But mixed in the smell is the lovely aroma of a beautiful girl!

I looked down and was stunned by the scene before me. The driver was an unrivalled beauty. She was lying on the driver seat, and her snow-white but visibly tired face looked so beautiful and breath-taking. Below her proud slender neck is two perky twin peaks. This bombshell could make men take deep breaths in wonder and astonishment at her beauty, creating a suffocating atmosphere!

This girl looks about twenty. In one of her hands, she is holding the bottle of wine. The kind of expensive wine that I saw in the supermarket, but are not willing to buy. In her right hand, she is clutching a bag. The insides of this bag contain something that looked round like a watermelon.

At this time, the thugs also saw the female driver, and they sucked in a sharp breath as they gasped at her beauty. One of the thugs shouted aggressively, “Hey Kid! What do you think you are doing! We saw this woman first!”

I turned back, and coldly retorted: “Make way, she is my girlfriend!”

The thug immediately roared: “Bullshit! If you have a girlfriend who can afford a BMW, would you still be living in this slum? You better let her go, or we will call the police!”

I grinned: “Call the police? That’s great! You better quickly call the police. If

you don't call for the police, I will!"

Saying this, I immediately took a pink coloured handphone from the driver's seat. This handphone should belong to the woman.

At this time, a few of the thugs looked a bit scared. One of them said: "Ok! You f\*\*ker said that she is your girlfriend. Then we want to see you bring her to your house!"

I was surprised at this. Shit, now I am trapped. I could only either continue to bluff my way out or I will be beaten to death by these thugs.

Seeing that these thugs were not going to let us go that easily, I gritted my teeth. With my hands on her hip and shoulders, I carried her out of the vehicle. She was stone drunk, and did not make any fuss as she leaned on my shoulders. I put her down gently on the stairs to my home.

Then I took out the key from the Ignition Key Hole, closed the door, and locked the car with the key. After that, I support the girl up the stairs to my home and locked and barricade the door.

I could feel the jaws of the thugs opening wide as they stared at me. "This beauty could not really be the girlfriend of that kid right?"

.....

After reaching home, I place the girl on my bed, and let her sleep it out.

In this way, my bed suddenly had an amazing beauty on it.

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# Chapter 2



Chapter 2 is out.

Usually I rant here. But today I just want to take a moment of silence to pray for those that were killed last week in Paris.

+++++

**Today, other than having the good luck to pick up a hot chick, my luck has been terrible.**

**In the morning, I received a phone call. It was a call from my company telling me that I have been fired. After that, I threw my handphone away in anger, and it happened to fall into the river. There goes my 300 bucks Motorola Cottage phone.**

**After that, I went to an ATM to withdraw money to pay my rent. But who knows that the money in my ATM card had been pilfered by hackers, and my card was eaten up the ATM machine? Oh, high and almighty bank, the 500 bucks in my card is to supposed to be used for paying my rental expenses!**

**Next, the bicycle which had accompanied me for 3 or more years left my side. It was ‘arrested’ by an inspector uncle for being too old and clunky and was considered a road safety hazard.**

**I did even not have dinner, and muddle-headedly return to the cell where I live in.**

**And found that there was a BMW parked below my flat.**

**Looking out the window, I was surprised to see a female driver, lying on top of the steering wheel. I do not know why, but her shoulders were twitching.**

**It was not really my business, so I did not really care about it.**

Walking through the neighbourhood, I sneaked a glance in all directions. Surely heaven is not so cruel to me? I am sure that God will provide me with a way out!

I did not know whose house had planted some green vegetables in their garden. The garden seemed to be abundant with the plants.

I stretched out my hand, and sneakily took one stem of vegetable. After washing away the soil, this plant could be used to make a vegetable porridge. What is even better is that this green vegetable is definitely fresh!

My home is on the fifth floor, a 3 room flat with a hall. I rented the middle room, and my rental is about 500 bucks a month. As for why the rental is so low, it is because other people are not willing to rent this place. At first I thought there are ghosts here. But it turns out that my neighbours are a bit more 'special'.

The women living in the room to the left of my room often brings some middle age men home. Then the room seemed to shake and you could hear the sounds of panting, moaning and groaning. Of course, such a straight and sweet man like myself have no idea what they were doing.

As for my neighbours on the right, it is rented by several university students who are forming their own band. There is a guy in the room who would play his drums and sing loudly every night as he tried to compose some music.

Therefore, it is not surprising for me to wake up into the middle of the night, with two types of sounds drifting into my room.

"arrhh. Aiya.. Arrrhh.. Arrhhh... Ohhhh...!"

"You died already and you still want love....." [Lyrics to a self-composed song]

"arrhh. Aiya.. Arrrhh.. Arrhhh... Ohhhh...!"

"You died already and you still want MORE LOVEEEE...."

Therefore, in loneliness of the night, while I am sleeping, I often I wish that I was dead.

.....

I shook my bag of rice, and discover I did not even have 100 grains of rice. I double confirmed and found that I have exactly 56 grains of rice. That's wonderful! 56 nationalities in China, and 56 flowers. All 56 nationalities are one big Chinese family!

[Note: China has exactly 56 ethnic groups refer to 56 nationalities in China. Each group has a national flower, and all 56 groups belongs to China. [See here.](#)]

I am very excited. Yes I am feeling super excited. Because this means that I will not starve to death! Horray!

I washed the green vegetable that I 'borrowed' from the garden, and carefully remove the soil. Then I cut it into many small pieces, and threw them into the pot. In this way, it will seem that I have eat many pieces. At least, in this way, I feel that I had eaten a lot, and will naturally feel full. I do not ask for a lot, as long as I can make my stomach stop growling in hunger, that is more than enough for me. On several occasions, as long as I tricked myself, this would be enough for me to live.

While the rice porridge is being cooked, I returned to my room and switched on the computer. Only to discover that almost every website are advertising about <>Spirit of Grief<> being launched tomorrow at 6pm. For the virtual gaming industry which have been losing customers steadily every year due to declining interest in the gene, <>Spirit of Grief<> is like a blockbuster that had the potential to retrieve the struggling virtual reality market!

.....

Unfortunately, I could not afford to buy a game helmet. Although I have a dedicated gaming network cable, but it is unlikely to be able to allow me to be online at the moment of the launch.

Much later, the best and worst thing in my life happened to me. I save the beauty in the BMW, but found myself being locked out of my room.

The beauty even had a game helmet in the hall!

I was shocked. Is this really the <>Spirit of Grief<> game helmet? But this is impossible as the helmet is only on sale tomorrow onwards. Why is there a helmet here?

**My heart could not help being suspicious. Who is the beauty sleeping in my bed?**

**Right at this moment, a shrill noise rang out. Only then did I discovered that the lady's handphone and car keys are all in the bag as well.**

**Looking at the CallerID, it says "Elder Sister".**

**Yi? Her elder sister had called her?**

**This is wonderful! Why not let her come here and take the beauty inside away? Although I had repeatedly begged God to gift me with such a beautiful girl, but surely God had no reasons to make sure that I sleep outside my room tonight?**

**Once I thought it over, I immediately received the phone call.**

**A sweet voice rang out: "Hello, Ling Xue, where are you now? Why are you not back at home?"**

**This sweet voice is almost identical to the sleeping beauty in my room. It looks that the owner of this voice is definitely her sister.**

**I replied: "Are you her elder sister?"**

**The girl was immediately placed on high alert. "Who are you? Where is Ling Xue? What did you do with my sister?"**

**I immediately tried to clarify: "Your sister is all right, she is in my room!"**

**Who knows it only make her panic: "You rotten bastard! What did you do to my little sister!"**

**At this time, I was too angry to reply. Today is really not my lucky day! I had save this Ling Xue lady, and in return, I got a scolding from her elder sister?**

**Therefore, I roared: "You savage grandma, listen to my explanation, ok?"**

**The lady on the phone seemed to be shocked: "Tell me where she is, I will immediately drive over!"**

**I was about to reply, when I discovered that the mobile phone was flashed a warning sound "Out of battery...."**

**Then the mobile phone automatically shut down by itself.**

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# Chapter 3



**Comment from a reader:** Why are you taking more projects to translate if you already have 2 of the projects to translate....it would decrease the amount and speed of god and devil world translation.....

If you have time to uptake new projects why don't you speed up the translation of the 2 currently ongoing projects like the translators of peerless martial god....

**[My reply to these readers]:** I would like to politely point out that it is none of your business what I choose to do with my time and what I choose to translate.

Answering pointless, unhelpful comments from people like you is the main reason why my translation speed dropped.

Now if you really want me to speed up on translations, then stop wasting my time on telling me what I should do. I don't give a damn about your opinion of what I should be doing. I do not owe you a living. I have the right to decide what I want to do in my free time, and I choose this. Translating this is a lot of fun for me.

Your comments do not help. It just piss me off, and I would go to sleep [I sleep only 2 hours a day] and stop working instead of delivering what you want. A few readers pissed me off, and when I am angry, I post a lot LESS chapters. I take time off and take a break. Note that I only offer 1 chapter a week, and I had already exceeded my target by a mile. Bye!

[Just so that we are clear, be nice to your translators, and your translators will be nice to you. Try to direct what I should be doing with MY time, and I will be

*nasty and deliver the complete opposite of what you want-less chapters of your favourite novel every day, or one chapter every other day].*

---

*The hall is deserted. In this summer, it is very hot, and there is no air-conditioning in the hall.*

*I was sweating and perspiring heavily. I had a grievance, but no one to report it to. The beauty in my room would not be waking up anytime soon. And this hall, it does not even have a sofa for me to sit down on. I really don't know what to do.*

*Finally, my sights landed on the game helmet. 'Perhaps I could play it for a short while to while away the time?'*

*There is a game network cable port installed in the living room. Looks like there are no better time to use it. To know if this game helmet is really the <>Spirit of Grief>> game, all I need to do is to test it and I would know for sure!*

*I took the cable out of the bag, and installed the game accordingly to the instruction booklet. Then sat on the floor next to the wall and placed the helmet over my head.*

*One moment later, I suddenly feel that my brain seemed to clear, and I hear a sound..."*

*"Scanning iris, identified a new player. Player identity confirmed! Do you want to play the game?"*

*I immediately replied "YES."*

*"Welcome! Your code number is 00000002. Your iris information has been locked!"*

*I was surprised! "Damn it. I just try this helmet once, and it locked on to my iris. Then does it means that this helmet could no longer be used by others, and become MY helmet?"*

*But I thought, she has forcibly occupied my room! Forget it, since I could not undo what had already been done, I will think of some ways to pay her back for it.*

*In the game helmet, there was another sound: "Sorry! This game has not been officially launched. Please wait for another 23 hours 42 mins before you can officially join this game. But you can create your character first. Do you want to create your character now?"*

*I click on "Yes – choose my character race". The screen seemed to flash, and my surroundings seemed to wrap. All of a sudden, I was transported to the wilderness. In front of me, there are 3 choices: Human, Elves or Orc.*

*I have heard a rumour that here may be hidden race, but the chance of this occurring is one in a 10 million! Looks like I do not have the luck to unlock a hidden race.*

*With but 3 choices, I chose my race to be Human.*

*"Facial scan in progress, please wait a moment..."*

*Not longer after, an identical copy of me seemed to appear in front of me. He is dressed in leather armour, and appears to be a rookie.*

*There is no more system prompt, and instead a message appears:*

*"The game has not been launched yet, thank you for your patience."*

*After that, my surroundings seemed to wrap and change again, and I was transported to a battlefield.*

*In a large canyon, there was a huge army of man, elves and orcs that was battling against the dark forces. Mages hurled mighty fireballs, while the sexy beautiful elves continuous launch a torrent of arrows from the back of the army. In the front lines, many warriors and berserkers seemed to be armed with spear or heavy axe as they rushed into a group of skeleton warriors, smashing apart the bones of the skeleton with each hit.*

*On the other side, the necromancers raised their wands and released their spell, and countless numbers of meteorite fell onto the troops. Several berserkers were caught in the sea of fire, and their heavy armour also seemed to melt from the heat!*

*There was a white flash of light as healers on the human side healed the warriors and berserkers. They then channel their energy and launched a white*

*colour chain lightning that annihilated the necromancers.*

*At this time, from the sky, countless flakes of snow silently fall, and dropped into the canyon.*

*Each snowflake suddenly transformed into a sharp blade of ice as it falls into the canyon, and many warriors and priests were killed by the ice blades.*

*Everyone raised their heads and was surprised to see a four-winged demon flying in the air, with hands open and chanting aloud another obscure spell!*

*Suddenly, there was a flash of light, and a scream rang out. The men, elves and orcs looked up and discovered that two of the demon wings had been sliced apart!*

*The spell that the demon was chanting was interrupted, as the demon spiraled downwards as it lost its ability to fight. With a crash, it landed hard on the ground. Before it could get its bearings, it was hacked apart by countless numbers of warriors!*

*The scene zoomed in to see the man that cleaved the demon's wing. On a broken cliff, there was a handsome, young man. There was a sword in his hand, and the sword seemed to be glowing. But the most astonishing thing is that his hair had all turned white. Watching the battle, his eyes revealed a deep sense of loneliness and grief.*

*A burst of thunder boomed out, followed by a flash of lightning as it streaked across the sky. This seemed announced the arrival of the next storm!*

*If you look up towards the sky, you could faintly see two shining characters illuminated with blue light, <>Spirit of Grief<>.*

*Maybe the graphics and sound were too realistic, but I was just standing there looking awestruck at the scene. For some time, I did not say a single word. But I can confirm one thing for sure. This helmet is definitely a game helmet for <>Spirit of Grief<>.*

*Who is the girl in my room? Why is she able to get hold of a game helmet with the ID number 00000002? Does this mean that the helmet that I have just used is the 2nd helmet that was launched in the world?*

*There is still one more day before the launch of the game. I begin to log out*

*from the game, and removed my helmet. My whole body was sweaty. From just the opening cinematic, I could say with confidence that this game really lived up to its hype! No matter if it is about the ultra-realism or finest attention to details of the characters, all of these make a man feel alive and roaring to go!*

*I wonder if the man who used just one stroke of his sword to defeat the demon with four wings in the opening cinematic is saying that gamers could also reach that insane level?*

*Thinking this, I could not help smiling. If I could really achieve that kind of level, does that means I could conquer the world and have a large plot of land and several beauties serving me?*

*Suddenly, I smell something burning. At this time, I suddenly recalled that my porridge was still cooking in the pot!*

*I rushed into the kitchen and switched off the electricity. Looking at my vegetable porridge which had turned into gruel, I could not bear to eat it. Besides, I lost my appetite.*

*In my room lays a sleeping beauty named Ling Xue. She is stone drunk and unconscious and is unlikely to open the door. I could only take the yellow tablecloth, covered my stomach with my hands and sleep in the hall. Damn it, why is it that other men get to sleep with a beauty while my luck is this bad? While I also met with a beauty, I had to sleep on the cold hard floor while the beauty sleep on my comfortable bed!*

*With difficulty, I finally drifted into sleep, only to be awakened up a short while later by a bright glare from some light. I groaned and opened my eyes to see a fat man using his hand phone's light to shine at me.*

*I was very annoyed, and was able to blow my top, then I discovered that this fat man is my landlord!*

*My landlord looked at me with a look full of contempt, and said: “!? Ding Shusheng, your next month's rent is due. If you delay payment again, I have no choice but to evict you! It is already so late, why are you sleeping outside in the hall?”*

*I look up to see the large clock in the hall. It is already 2 am. Then I asked:*

*"Landlord, it is so late, why are you here?"*

*"I come to see the circuit breaker. A few tenants said that there is a power trip. But you! When are you going to pay your rent?!"*

*My heart skipped a beat. The rental money that I had painstaking saved up had been stolen by crooks. Where do I get more money to pay the rent?*

*At this time, with an "Aiya" sound, the door to my room opened. The beauty Ling Xue stepped out of my room.*

*Ling Xue's was wearing baggy clothes, but the baggy clothes could not conceal her graceful figure. She seemed to have a bit of the lazy and proud charming demeanor that rich people have.*

*"I want a glass of water." Ling Xue was half asleep as she groggily called out.*

*For a moment, my landlord was struck dumb by the sight of the woman. "You rascal, having such a beautiful girlfriend! Forget it, I will come again another day. You better find a job real quick, or I will really evict you!"*

*Without further ado, the Landlord turned and left.*

*This time, Ling Xue had already slept for 7 to 8 hours. She has just awoken. She blinked her lovely eyes and looked at me, "I want to drink water."*

*I closed one eye at her attitude, and went into the shared kitchen to pour a glass of water for her. This is the probably the benefit of being a superb beauty. All she had to do is ask, and men will willingly do whatever she wants.*

*Ling Xue took the glass of water, and with a "Gu Lu, Gu Lu" sound, she drank all the water in one gulp. Then she looked at me and suddenly she flashed a 100 Megawatts smile. "You are named Ding Shu Sheng (丁书生)-> [the name translate as Bookworm Ding?]"*

*It hit my sore spot, and I replied, "It is Ding Shu Sheng (丁舒升) [Comfortably Rich Ding]. 舒Shu as in comfortable. 升Sheng as in promoted and get rich, not Bookworm Ding." But truth be told, despite my name, I am poorer than a church mouse.*

*[Sorry: Sometimes, humour does not translate well.]*

*Ling Xue just smile, and brushed her hands against her hair. "It does not*

*matter what your name is. The problem is, I am very hungry. Can you find me some food to eat?"*

*"I was caught unawares by this sudden request: "It is already so late, where do I find some food for you. Every the convenience store had closed."*

*Ling Xue lightly knitted her eyebrows into a light frown: "I drank too much wine. If I don't eat anything, I will have a bad stomach-ache!"*

*'Actually, it does not matter if you eat or don't eat anything. You will still get a stomach-ache anyway. I always have stomach-ache from having nothing to eat.' I thought but did not say it out loud.*

*Instead, I asked, "You are a girl, why did a proper and nice girl like you drink so much wine?"*

*"It is none of your business!" Ling Xue retorted loudly. But she turned her face away from me, and asked in a soft voice, "How did you know I am proper and nice....?"*

*I did not say a word and walked into the kitchen. I add some hot water and poured my vegetable porridge into a bowl. Then I left the bowl of porridge on the dining table. "I only have this. If you are willing, you could have some. But if you are not willing, then you may drive out and see if you can find some food. Your car is still downstairs."*

*Ling Xue seemed to be shocked when she looked into the bowl of vegetable porridge. Her eyes seemed to look at me with a strange look.*

*"You only have this to eat?" she carefully chose her next words to avoid insulting me.*

*I also did not feel any shame or embarrassment as I nodded my head: "That right. This is all I had to eat."*

*At this moment, my stomach abruptly growled with a loud noise. Ling Xue looked at me with a face of astonishment then she suddenly realised something and ask: "You also had not eaten? Do you have any more food? If not, we could share this bowl of vegetable porridge."*

*I was stunned. The pot is completely empty. All the food I had was in the bowl.*

*As if she could see through my thoughts, she smiled and walked into the kitchen and took another bowl. Then she divided the vegetable porridge into two bowls and pushed one bowl to me. “Eat up!”*

*For a minute, I could not believe my eyes. A beauty who was decked in branded clothes and driving a BMW is willing to share a bowl of gruel that even a beggar would not touch?*

*[... To be continued.]*

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# Chapter 4



Ling Xue, the beauty

*Thank you readers for your show of support for me regarding censorship. I was touched by the outpouring of support from most people.*

**Readers,** I will be translating [God & Devil World] shortly for all of you [God & Devil World] fans out there – it is time to clear the sponsor queue and reply to my sponsors, and update the donation page for accountability. Come back in 4-5 hours for the next chapter. I really need a long time to translate one chapter.

**Sponsors,** I will update the donation page at the end of the day. thank you for your patience.

*I was delighted by one comment from a reader: “Honestly i was getting ready to drop this series right before you picked it up because of the tone toward minorities and women. I gave it a few more chapters, fell in love with your notes at the begining of the chapters about your daily life, and here we are. I actually enjoy your censorship, as the racism and sexism add nothing to the story.”*

=====

I end up sitting down, and with a single mouth, I finished the bowl of vegetable gruel. To be frank, I was really hungry.

Ling Xue was sitting opposite me, and she picked the vegetable from the gruel

and quickly ate them.

The supper ended in less than one minute!

Ling Xue licked her lips and smiled, “The taste is not too bad, but next time, remembers to add less salt”

I did not say a word. Looking at her, it seemed that she had no intent to sleep anymore.

“You look very foolish. I know, now on I will call you Dai Zi [it means Little Sucker]. Is this ok?” Ling Xue laughs.

With a firm resolution, I replied, “No Way! That is a derogatory name.”

Ling Xue smiled and the dimples on her face never look this cute. “Not really. In today’s age, this type of nicknames is all the rage with close friends. For example, Little Rascal, Little Fool etc. are all common names with close friends

“A load of crap!”. I thought but did not say anymore. If we follow her logic, then Little Bastard, Little Idiot, Little Fucker etc, all these terms that you call your friends?

Ling Xue eyes swept across the room, and found that the <<Spirit of Grief>> game helmet has already been opened. For a minute, she was momentarily surprised, then immediately squat down and pick up to examine it. She discovered that the blue colour microchip had turned yellow in colour. For a moment, all hell freezes over as she turned and looked at me and said: “IS.. THIS...YOUR.... HANDICRAFT....?”

I was stunned at the great change in her. One moment ago, she was all sweet and smiley, and the next moment she is so cold. Even though it is summer, I could feel a chill in the air from her words. I embarrassingly replied: “It is a mistake, a misunderstanding. How would I know that once I put it on, it will be locked and could be used only by me?”

Ling Xue seemed to be dumbstruck as she looked at me. Then she bit her lips and suddenly wailed: “You idiot! You know how difficult it is for me to get this treasure, and you used it first. Waahhh, Waahhh ”

Just as quickly, she composed herself. Then she looked at the clock in the hall,

and sarcastically said: “Now, that’s great! There are still 14 more hours before <<Spirit of Grief>> is launched. I have no desire to queue and buy a new game helmet anymore.”

I searched around, but there was no hole nearby for me to hide my head in shame. Therefore, I could only say this in a low voice. “Errhhh.... I will definitely pay you back for this in the future. But, currently, I do not have the money to do so ....”

Ling Xue looked at me, and suddenly placed the game helmet onto my chest.

I stretched out my hands and received the helmet, and asked in a shocked but light voice: “What are you doing?”

“I am giving this helmet to you! Now that it had been locked to your iris, only you can use this helmet. What’s the point of me keeping it?”

My first gift from this beauty! And an expensive game helmet that I have always wanted on top of that! I was on cloud nine, and would jump up for joy. Except that while Ling Xue was giving me the gift, she was glaring at me so intently and with so much fiery that it could bore holes of fire into my body. I shrank away from her, only to hear her asked. “Do you have any place here where I could take a shower? I am feeling very uncomfortable, and would like to have a shower.”

I was surprised again. Her temperament switched so fast. One moment, she was cold as an ice. At the next moment, she is hot like a volcano. Then now she is calm and wants to take a bath?

But I replied anyway: “Forget it, it would be better for you to drive out and find a room in a hotel to take a bath. My place is not convenient. Also, I do not have any clothes for woman....”

Ling Xue seemed to frown at my suggestion. “It is already so late, and you still expect me to go out by myself? Are you not afraid that I will meet some bad men?”

I put on my fiercest look as I glared back at her: “Are you not afraid that I am a bad man?”

Ling Xue just took one look into my eyes, and laughed “You look so foolish! I

bet that you do not even dare to take advantage of a girl who was sleeping next to you. Being next to you is very, very safe!"

This #%\$@! Is this is SARCASM?

Without a word, Ling Xue walked into my room without any invite, and opened my closet. From there, she picked a big t-shirt. She searched for pants to wear, but all I have are large summer shorts and underwear. Therefore, she turned beet red, and took the shirt and entered the bathroom.

The sound of water running roar out. I was outside the door, and could not help fantasising: "At this moment, which part of her body is Ling Xue washing?"

Damn it, it does not matter where she wash, just the thought of it gave me another massive erection!

Did God just heard my resentment and took pity on me?

A girl walked into my bedroom, used my shower, and took my clothes. Does it mean that I finally am going to score a big one tonight?

The next tens of minutes were an agony and I tried to suppress my sexual urges.

When Ling Xue walked out of the bathroom, I almost cried in happiness. Tonight will be my lucky night! She was dressed in just my shirt. Her exquisite legs were exposed, and just the sight of these legs made me trembled in excitement.

She walked into my room, and go under the blanket. I thought my bad luck had finally changed and was about to creep under the blanket with her. Then I heard her next words: "You better sleep outside. Also, take this!"

"Woosh"

A wooden blanket was thrown towards me. I quickly caught it. Although my face was still smiling, inside my heart, it was crying. "Seemed like tonight I definitely have to sleep alone in the hall!"

Oh God, why are you so cruel as to repeatedly tempt me with this beauty, but refused to let me score?

I took the blanket, and carried the helmet out of the room towards the hall. As my hands feel the game helmet, it seemed that all my resentments towards God had evaporated, and I could not help feeling happy.

The helmet is very expensive, but I got it for free. With this helmet, I can play the game that I always wanted to. I have heard the rumours that this game has an online auction for rare items, where players can sell items for real world cash. Maybe I can earn some money to pay my rent...

That night, I had a sweet dream. I dreamt that I had became a peak expert in the game of <>Spirit of Grief<>, and with a single swing of my sword, I could kill a thousand creatures. I was rolling in wealth, and have a harem. Ling Xue was one of the women in my harem, of course.

When I heard the doorbell rang, then I realised that it was nothing but a dream. I raised my head and found the door to my room was opened, and my room was empty.

I quickly got up, and discovered that Ling Xue had left. The blanket was tidily spread on the bed, and it is the first time my bed was made – I don't really keep my bed tidy. The handphone and the car keys were missing, it seemed that Ling Xue had taken them as well.

On the pillow, there was a crisp, new banknote. On top of the money is a piece of paper. I took the piece of paper and read it.

"Little Sucker, if you want to find a job, go to Blue Star Digital Square Development Division and request for one. Also, this thousand dollars note, is the fee for my stay."

At the bottom. There is a very pretty drawing. The eyes are big and clear, and a smile is so sweet. Just like Ling Xue's smile, so irresistible!

I was thinking, "Fee for stay?" @\$%#@@\$%!! I am not a gigolo! Even if I was one, I should have scored at least once, right?

Looks that my conversation with the landlord last night has been overheard by Ling Xue.

Seeing the banknote, I could not help feeling touched. It seems that God did not abandon me and do not want me to be evicted. In addition he had provided

me with a way out of starvation – the vegetable porridge last night was the last of whatever food I had remaining. God really works in mysterious ways!

The more I looked at the words and drawing, the more I felt that a woman's handwriting had never looked so good. And this was written by a top beauty like Ling Xue.

There was a saying, if God had gifted you with beauty, then God will take some of your brains in exchange. But this law, if it exists, does not apply to Ling Xue. God is really unfair, and gifted her with an abundance of both beauty and intelligence.

Although I did not know who Ling Xue is, and her background, but since she said that Blue Star Digital Square Development Division have a job for me, I should go and try it out.

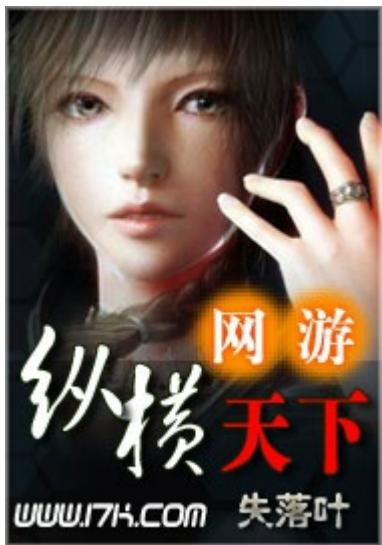
Therefore, I took a quick shower, changed to a nice clothes, and left the house.

No matter what the job involve, I must reach home before 6! <<Spirit of Grief>> will be launch today at 6 pm. I must go online at the first opportunity and dig out all the money from this game!

[to be continued...]

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# Chapter 5



*I am glad to see many of the readers enjoyed this novel.*

*This novel is more about gaming, but surprisingly the author spent five lonnngggggg chapters before it get to the game part. :P*

*But I like the beginning chapter. It is very funny to me.*

*When I started translating this, I want something that would make my readers smile.*

*Let's face it, God & Devil World is really dark.*

*Line between Devil and Angel is ... unique.*

*I feel that readers would like something more balanced, and a touch of humor (dirty jokes) if you will. But at the same time, readers like action. So I picked this up.*

*Let me know what you think in the polls at the end of the chapter. Thanks! So much appreciated. Your feedback let me know if I should drop this or keep this.*

=====

Blue Star Digital Square is located on a site that is used for a group of technology-related business. This location was rapidly developed and numerous businesses populated the surrounding area. I have heard of this place before. The building is quite near my home. If I run all the way there, it would take me less than 20 minutes to reach there.

Actually, I have no choice but to run there. Uncle Inspector had confiscated my bicycle for being a road safety hazard.

When I reached Blue Star Digital Square, it is already late in the day. Most of the employees had already gone to work. There was a continuous stream of shoppers, but most of the shoppers are students in school uniforms.

I entered the building from the back door, and enquired where the Development Division is. Then I made my way there.

This office is located at the top floor of the building, and after entering the door, my eyes could not help widening in surprise.

In the small room, there were four superb beauties.

The four beauties were seated on two large sofas, and seemed to be chatting happily. The most surprising thing is, all of them were dressed very sexily. Their shirt could barely cover their cleavage, and the mini-skirts they wore could not cover their sexy white legs.

At the sight of these impressive eye-candies, my mouth turned dried and my tongue seemed to be tied. I quickly swallowed my saliva to prevent them from dripping uncontrollably onto the floor.

At this time, a beauty who was wearing a western suit approached me. She glanced at me and asked, “You are the [Bookworm] that Ling Xue introduced?”

[Note that: Bookworm and Comfortably Rich sounds the same when spoken aloud – both of them translates as Shu Sheng. The lead name is Comfortably Rich Ding, and not Bookworm Ding, but this girl mistook his name as Bookworm.]

I nodded my head. “En, Yes! Is this the Development Division?”

This woman smiled as she held out her hand for a handshake, “Welcome to Xue Yue (Snow Moon) office! I am Bing Cha (Ice Tea), and I am a member of this team.”

Ice Tea’s actions are very natural and restrained! I shook her hands and could not help liking the soft feel of her hands.

But my attention was focused on her words: “Snow Moon office?”

Ice Tea smiled as she explained. “Yes! Our company was established as a result

of <>Spirit of Grief>>. Right now we are temporary affiliated with Blue Star Digital Square Development Division. But in the future, we will be the Blue Star Digital Square Elites that managed to break into the <>Spirit of Grief>> market.”

Then I realised why Ling Xue gifted me with the helmet and had recommended me to work here! I would need a game helmet to work!

At this time, the beauties at the sofa also walked over. She was dressed a blue coloured mini-skirt and winked at me as she introduced herself: “Hi, my name is ‘Last Year’s Summer’, just call me Summer will do. What’s your name, handsome?”

I shoot a glance at this beauty. I discovered that although her breasts are not very big, she have a pair of super smooth and sexy white legs. Also, her face looked very enchanting. I blushed red and stammered: “eerrr..... call me [Bookworm]....”

With a “he he” smile, Summer greeted me “Brother [Bookworm], nice to meet you!”

Next to Summer was a gentle and quiet girl who was looking at me as she introduced herself. “My game naming is ‘Rain Falls Quietly’. You can just call me Rainfall.”

I nodded my head and looked at the girl standing next to Rainfall. She was wearing a pink dress and looking with at me. When she looked into my eyes, she smiled and said, “I am Purple Moon.

Please take care of me!”

I was not used to this polite manner of speech, and waved my hands as I said “There’s no need to be so formal”.

Ice Tea pointed at the chair at a side and invited me to sit.

Looking at the behaviour of the other three girls that was respectfully listening to Ice Tea, it looks that Ice Tea is the person in charge here. I sat down and looked around, but did not even see a shadow of Ling Xue.

Ice Tea saw that I seemed to be sort of blurred and lost as I glanced around nervously, and she smiled as she explained: “We are all gamers in another game. This time <>Spirit of Grief>> is being launched, and we have been recruited by

Blue Star Digital Square group as professional gamers, and spearhead its venture into this game. In the future if the company has new investments, each of us will also have different tasks to do!"

I nodded my head. But I was still apprehensive. Did I manage to land the job? I asked and confirmed: "Then, have I just become a member of Snow Moon team?"

Ice Tea smiled as she replied "Of course, Snow Moon team has six members. Plus you, it is seven!"

Other than myself, the rest of the four girls are all super beauties. I could not help feeling super excited. In future, I will be the only thorn among the flowers. But I did not still did not see Ling Xue.

I had dinner at the staff canteen, and even purchased some cakes for supper. After all, tonight <>Spirit of Grief<> will be launched globally, and supper is definitely needed!

Before I left the office, Ice Tea dumped some documents on the table, and announce, "The top brass has given us an order. All of us must log into the <>Spirit of Grief<> game today, and by tomorrow morning, each of us must be at least level 10. Also, each of us must earn two gold pieces, and pass these monies to the company"

I was shocked: "Two gold coins? I heard from the rumours that it is very hard to get money in this game...."

Ice Tea smiled as she replied "Even if it is hard, you must also complete this mission. [Bookworm], did you know that our boss, Director Wang, has seen this game as an opportunity to expand our group, and will be using the game to complete a massive task?"

I was surprised. "So it is like this! This Director Wang is really a @\$\$%0#\*!"

Ice Tea just laugh as she replied "Not really!"

No matter what the top brass had in mind, I also don't care too much. To level to level 10 within a night is not too difficult. But the problem is two gold coins. Everyone knows that in <>Spirit of Grief<>, most of the beginning monsters only drop copper coins. 100 copper coins are equal to 1 silver coin. 100 silver coins =

1 gold coin. 2 gold coins is 20,000 coppers.

To get this amount of money, it probably requires several months or even years!

But it does not matter. I believe that with my experience in games, I will not be weaker than the office gals.

I carried my supper home. It was getting late. Looking at the time, <<Spirit of Grief>> will be officially launched in about half an hour. I was very excited.

I returned to my room and locked the door. I feel the helmet in my hands and could not help letting out a “he he” sound. This helmet is a gift from the most beautiful woman I saw in my life, and I could not help treasuring it. But let’s forget about how this expensive helmet come to be gifted to me, shall we?

I put the helmet on, and switched on the game.

Once I put on the helmet, it immediately scanned my iris and confirmed my identity before letting me into the game.

I seemed to be transported into another world. A fairy seemed to fly in a circle in the sky above me, before landing near me. “Good day! I am a helper in <<Spirit of Grief>>. Welcome to this world! You have not created any character yet. Do you want to create a character now?”

Oops! I almost forgot! One hour before the game is officially launched, you may create your character!

Therefore, I quickly confirmed and chose to be a human. After scanning my facial features, I accepted the computer generated image. Finally in the character name, I choose “Made in China.”

Then I hit the confirm button.

“Ding!”

“Sorry, this name is already in use!”

“Night Club Gigolo!”

“Sorry, this name is already in use!”

“Lovely Duckie!”

“Sorry, this name is already in use!”

Shit! Every name I thought of is already in used!

I thought, why not have a name that uniquely describe me?

“The world’s most handsome bookworm!”

“Ding!”

“Sorry, this name is already in use!”

Damn it! One more time: “Bookworm will not eat rice today!”

“Ding!”

“Sorry, this name is already in use!”

I bit down hard on my teeth and was about to explode from anger! I typed  
“Easily angered Bookworm!”

“Ding!”

“Congratulations! Your character has been successfully created. There is still twenty-one more minutes before the game launches. Please wait patiently.

After that is a very boring period of waiting. I swear, this must be slowest ever twenty minutes in the whole world.

Why is it that time crawl like a snail when you are awaiting something and seemed to fly when you are doing something you love?

During my student days, I used to play a lot of games with my classmates. Now there is only me left who continues to play games. The rest of them got a job and moved on with their lives.

I don’t know if I could meet up again with my old buddies!

After 20 minutes seem to crawled by, I suddenly hear another ‘Ding’ sound. This was followed by an announcement: “Game launching in 60 seconds!”

Accordingly to rumours, the gamers who are the 1st few to enter the game early have a chance to get a lucky draw. This lucky draw can give items or some other rewards. I must grab hold of this opportunity.

Therefore, I stare at the clock as it countdown to 0. My hands and feet are

ready to charge into the game at a moment notice..

“Ding!”

“System announcement: There are 10 more seconds before the game starts!”

“9 !”

“8 !”

“7 !”

.....

“3 !”

“2 !”

“1 !”

“System Announcement: The game is officially launched!”

I just ignored all the system announcements, and as soon it reached zero, I immediately entered the game. I also opted to skip the opening cinematics. After all I have seen it before.

The screen in front of me seemed to flicker and a bright light shone on me. I closed my eyes for a second, and when I reopened my eyes, I was in a tiny village. This village seemed to be in the Stone Age. Even the buildings were simple. This level of realism is freaking unbelievable!

“Ding!”

“System Announcement: You are the 6th gamer who entered this game, you received 100 experience points!”

I was surprised by this announcement. Then a bigger surprise awaits me: I found that a golden light surrounds me and I seemed to have gained a level!

I opened my character screen and found that my experience bar had been reset to 0. It seemed that exactly 100 experience points is needed to be promoted from level 1 to level 2.

I was a bit disappointment. There was no unique weapons or armour for me. But having advanced to level 2 is not too bad. At least I saved a few minutes.

I checked my backpack and discovered there are two items:

**[Lousy stick]** (Rubbish level item)

Attack: 0-1

Level needed to use this item: 0

**[Sackcloth]** (Rubbish level item)

Defence: +1

Level needed to use this item: 0

....

En, two items! I equipped both them.

At this moment, there were several rays of light appearing all over the village. A large number of gamers have joined my starting village. I need to get out quickly, or there will be no more monsters for me to hunt!

[To be continued...]

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# Chapter 6

**Here we go, my usual rumble:**

*Frankly, the reason why many translators quit is because of insensitive comments. Ze Tian Ji translators just quit. The reason: The translators got depressed from reader's comments and do not want to do it anymore.*

Dropping Ze Tian Ji

POSTED ON NOVEMBER 25, 2015    UPDATED ON NOVEMBER 25, 2015

Well since there are so many people asking me to drop the series we have decided to drop it. If anyone wants to take it go ahead Well hope for the best. Have fun Guys.

ALSO IF YOU PICK THIS UP TELL ME so i can link the website 😊

REASON:

bc so many people were asking me to drop it and from those comments my group got depressed and doesn't wanna work anymore

No joke lol

**verbal\_abuse**

*Translators are human too. It is easy to say, ignore these bastards, etc. But, let's face it, these comments are not directed at you, but the poor translators. And these written abuses do get under the skin of the translators. After all, these types of comments are a type of verbal abuse. And Verbal Abuse hurts. There is only so much one can take before the translators could not take it anymore.*

**The end result:** everyone lost. The translators do not want to do it anymore. The readers do not have any new chapters.

### Verbal Abuse:

- is like sticks and stones
- hurts only if you let it
- is easy to defend against

 **crushes your soul!**

**What about money?** Frankly, most translators are

*not paid sufficiently for their work and time put in. I know, I have been there. A chapter get sponsored for \$2/=. I do not have sponsors everyday. Each chapter takes 4-5 hours. I translate 3-4 chapters a day. Is it worth it for you to spent 12-14 hours a day translating, work 7-8 hours, and sleep about 2 hours a day for a few bucks? I did not do this for money.*

If you want updates, be nice. that's all I am asking. With the amount of insensitive comments I got when I was sick, it made me feel worse, and I don't like to translate anymore. I just tossed them into the trash, and am going back to bed to sleep off my cold.

*Some food for thought.*

---

*After walking out the village, I looked around, and the vast forest was filled with green colour creatures. There are no players around the region yet.*

*I look back and saw to my horror, a stampede of new players rushing towards this area!*

*I immediately ran up ahead, and was about to do my job – start killing the mobs to gain experience and money.*

*I saw that not far away, there was a woman dressed in sackcloth. She was looking everywhere, as if she was seeking help.*

*"Yi? Looks that there is a mission!"*

*I did not hesitate, and immediately made my way towards her.*

*When I reached the NPC girl, she begins to speak to me: "My grandfather lost his axe when he went to cut firewood in the forest. It was rumoured that a goblin has stolen the axe! Please, can you help me to retrieve my grandfather's axe?"*

*"Ding ~!"*

*System Prompt: Will you accept the quest [Retrieve Goblin War Axe]?*

.....

*Of course, why would I reject this quest?*

*I immediately chose to accept.*

*"Ding ~!"*

*System notice: You have accepted the quest [Retrieve Goblin War Axe] !  
(Beginner's Quest, difficultly level 10)*

*Quest Details: Help the woman [Little Flower] to find the missing axe. The axe should be in the hands of the goblins that are outside the village. Kill the goblins and retrieve ten axes from their corpses.*

*I was surprised. Little Flower's grandpa only lost a single axe. How come my question requires me to find ten axes? This is definitely my type of expertise – making a small sacrifice for a big gain!*

*After speaking to me, Little Flower began to sit under the tree, and it seems that she will not give up any more missions.*

*I set out to find these goblins.*

*At this time, a goblin that was quite closed to me seemed to discover me, and it came at me with its small axe. It is very short like a winter melon, and the funniest thing is – it even wore a green colour hat.*

*[In Cantonese, wearing a green colour hat had another meaning: It means your wife is having an affair with another man. Yes I know, this Chinese author's jokes does not translate well among non-Chinese. ]*

*I looked at the goblin and discovered that I could see its specs.*



### **【Small Goblin】(Normal Beast)**

*Level : 1*

*Attack : 1-3*

*Defence : 1*

*Life : 100*

.....

*The small goblin attack only does 1-3 points of damage. With my 2 points of defence, it should not be too hard for me to take it on.*

*Therefore I quickly go up, and smashed my staff on the small goblin's head.*

*"Bong!"*

*On the top of the goblin head suddenly appear "-12" number. This number should be the damage I inflicted on the goblin.*

*But the goblin's axe also landed on my shoulder. There was a slight pain as I discovered I lost 5 points of life.*

*Great! My life is about the same as the goblin, but I do more damage with each hit. I should be able to kill it off.*

*The most important thing is, my attack is much faster than the goblin. As a beginning level monster, the goblin should not instant kill a player.*

*I repeatedly hit the goblin on its head with my weapon. After several hits, it*

*finally collapsed and dropped several copper coins.*

*"Ding!"*

*Combat result: You killed a small goblin, and received ten experience points.*

*I immediately picked up the copper coins, and found that it had dropped three copper coins, and kept all of these into my backpack.*

*Seemed like grinding mobs is not going to be effective if I want to get two gold coins. I estimate that if each small goblins drop 1-3 copper coins, I will need to kill 10,000 small goblins to hit my target. Holy shit!*

*Only, after killing this goblin, only half of my hit points remains. Luckily there is only one goblin nearby. If there is another goblin, that would be very dangerous for me!*

*I immediately look at my character profile. Then I face palm. I just discovered that when I entered this game, I had not even assign the 5 points of attributes to my stats!*

*Apparently, each time you level up, you get 5 points of attributes that you can assign to any stats. I just entered this game, and I immediately hit level 2.*

*Shit! No wonder it is so darn hard to kill a single goblin! To think a pro-gamer like I would make such a stupid mistake.*

*With a mixture of shame and embarrassment, I add all five attributes points to my strength. Right now, my attack is very weak. I need something to increase the damage dealt. As well, I like close combat classes. There is nothing like the feeling of getting up close and wham!*

*After adding 5 points of strength, my attack stats immediately increased from 0-3 to 0-8. With this, it should be much easier to take care of small goblins!*

*Therefore, I choose another small goblin nearby, and smashed it on its head as usual. But this time, the number on top of its head is a staggering....*

*"-34!"*

*Wow! My attack is overpowered! Just 5 points of strength had made me so fucking awesome!*

*Just another two hits of my staff, and the poor little goblin dropped dead. Wait a minute, what is this? With a “Pa Ta” sound, an axe and some copper coins dropped onto the floor.*

.....

**[Goblin War Axe] (Quest item)**

*I picked it up, and was disappointed to note that that the axe could not be equipped. It did not even do a single point of damage, and is just junk. @#@#@#\$.*

*I kept the axe in my backpack and continued to hunt small goblins.*

*The rate of dropping of an axe is not high. I estimated that it dropped once for every five small goblins I kill.*

*But the thing that irks me most is the massive number of players. When I managed to collect nine goblin axe, I was shocked to discover that the region was filled with players. For each goblin that spawned, several beginner staffs would wrack it on its head at the same time. Then it would disappear.*

*Somehow, I understood why the poor goblins were wearing a green helmet. This game is supposed to a cutting edge role-playing game, but it had turned into a version of whack-a-mole. Poor goblins!*

*Looks like I should move on quickly. Or else I will never pull ahead.*

*At this time, suddenly a small goblin spawn next to me, and was looking around in a daze.*

*I immediately wracked it on its head. At the same time, four other players immediately rushed up and wracked it at the same time.*

*“Bong Bong Bong! ”*

*With just three hits, the small goblin is slain immediately, and drop a small goblin axe.*

*I was feeling proud. Luckily I was quick as lightning, and hit the goblin first, and did the most damage. If not, the kill would not belong to me.*

*I immediately picked up the goblin axe, and threw it into my bag. I had*

*completed my mission at last!*

*The four players who were trying to steal my prey seemed to be looking at me in a daze, and wants to ask me something. But I did not have time to explain, and immediately rushed back towards Little Flower.*

*After I gave her the quest items, Little Flower's face displayed an amazing smile: "Thank you! You had helped me find my grandpa's axe. This is your reward!"*

*"Ding ~!"*

*System notification: Congratulations for completing the quest [Goblin War Axe], you have gained 500 points of experience, two silver coins, reputation +1, and a special reward for being the first player to complete this quest [Rough Iron Sword]!*

*"Ding ~!"*

*System notice: You have gained a level!*

*"Yi? A piece of equipment at last!"*

*I was very happy, and immediately opened my backpack. There is a really a sword inside there.*



**[Rough Sword]** (Rubbish Level)

Attack: 1-4

Required Level: 2

*Hahaha. Now I got a level 2 item! Although it is the lowest rubbish level item, its attack is much higher than the staff in my hand.*

*In the game of <>Spirit of Grief<> all items are classified as rubbish level, white colour regular item, steel item, bronze item, silver item, gold item, unique item, ghost level item, earth level item, and unique artifacts. It is rumoured that there are grades above unique artifact level, but you have to be reborn to know and*

*to obtain these treasures.*

*I quickly equipped my sword, and right now, I became the first and only man who have a sword in the beginner's village!*

*Many other players seemed to be full of envy as they looked at my equipment. Perhaps in their eyes, I have become the most powerful noob among them.*

*Now that I have hit level 3, the goblin forest is no longer suitable for me. Especially after I have equipped my new weapon, and allocated all 5 points of my stats to strength. At the moment, my attack does an impressive 1-17 point of damage.*

*With this type of damage, if I did not fight stronger creatures, it would be a waste of my talents!*

*Therefore, I quickly returned to the village, and purchase ten bottles of life recovery potion. Each vial of potion can recover 100 points of life. This is expensive as shit, and each bottle cost 20 coppers. Thankfully I had two silver coins from my reward for completing the quest, and I spent them on potions.*

*I believe that my big investment will bring greater rewards.*

*Just when I was about to leave the village, I saw that there is another soldier in the village. He seemed to be looking around for help.*

*I immediately walked over, and as I expected, this is an NPC. This NPC is the captain of the guards in the town. He glanced at me, and spoke, "Young brave man, you look like you are strong enough! Will you assist me?"*

*I nodded my head.*

*The captain said: "Recently, to the North of the village, a group of Flame Bats. These creatures use a strange poison. These Flame Bats poisoned many of our soldiers. I hope you can go to wipe out these bats, and return with some antidote to the poison. "*

*I immediately confirm that I accept this quest!*

*"Ding ~!"*

*System announcement: You have accepted the Quest [**Clear the Field!**]  
(Beginner's Quest. Level of Difficulty: 50)*

*Quest Details: Clear the field north of the village of all the Flame bats, and collect 20 vials of Bat's blood and give it to the Captain Ma Su!*

.....

*I was shocked. Just now, in the Goblin Axe quest the level of the difficulty was 10, but now this quest is of 50 difficulty. It seems like this time; there is a high risk of no return!*

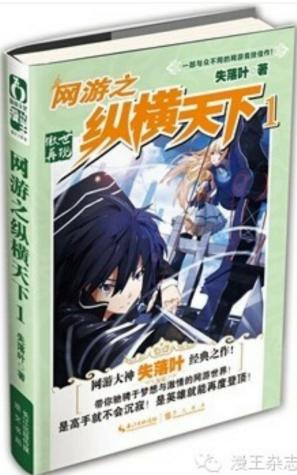
*I felt a chill down my spine, but still I set out for the north of the village.*

*[To be continued....]*

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# Chapter 7



## Free Regular Chapter

Enjoy! ~

I added a few images to improve the reading experience. If you do not like it, drop me a comment below. thanks.

---

As night fell, the rain covered the forest. Each step of my foot would result with a “Ba Ji, Ba Ji” sound as my foot splash among the water puddles in the grass.

I had already run for close to 10 minutes. In this forest, other than the players and goblins, I did not see any other creatures. But when I pass over a small hill, I finally saw a new creature!

“Zhi Zhi ~!”

A bat that was encased with flame seemed to emit the horrible creaking noise continuously. Its body was red in colour, but its only eye is green in colour.

[Fire Bat] (normal monster)

Level :5

Attack:4-10

Defence:4

Life : 500

Special Attack: Poison attack

.....

I was mildly surprised. It was a level 5 beast, and it is much stronger than the goblins. With a life of 500 hitpoints, it is very hard to escape the poisonous attack of these creatures.

I looked into my character profile.

### **Easily angered Bookworm (Player)**



Level : 3

Life : 210

Attack : 11-17

Defence : 4

Reputation : 1

Luck : 0

.....

My attack is considered not bad, but my defence is much weaker. The Flame bat should be able to break my defence. This, plus the special attack that can poison me, is definitely a tough fight.

But I need to engage it if I want more experience and stand heads and shoulders above the other gamers.

Therefore, I immediately waved my sword and rushed up, and chopped down at the head of the Flame bat with all my might!

“Pa Cha!”

A very nice number “-85” appears on top of the bat!

Woah!! I was pleasantly surprised. The attack with all my strength was indeed impressive. Just one chop with my sword had already cut down a large portion of the Flame bat’s health.

But at this time, the flame bat was also annoyed and immediately attacked me. But before it could do so, I quickly hit it again with my sword, and managed to

knock off close to 100 hit points!

Finally, the flame bat's wings hit my arm, and a searing pain erupted.

Combat notice: You have been injured by the flame bat, and lost 51 points of health.

"Shit! Just a hit from it and a quarter of my health are gone?"

I was shocked. This Flame bat attack is definitely very vicious!

I dare not to waste time. Before the next strike of the Flame Bat, I must quick finish it. Since this creature is two levels higher than me, and I do not have any defensive equipment, I could only do this if I want to survive.

With two more "cha cha" sounds resounding when my blade landed on the Flame Bat, two massive numbers appeared on top of its head "-91, -87"!

Although the Flame Bat speed was not very fast, its second attack had arrived before I managed to kill it.

All I saw was a flash of green, and a poisonous was spat out by the Flame Bat and hit me. I felt my body getting rigid and my health had dropped by 70 points!

Combat notice: You have been hit with the Flame Bat poison. Every 3 seconds, you will lose two hit points. This will continue for 60 seconds.

I was slightly surprised. The unavoidable thing had finally happened. But this poison was not as strong nor as scary as I thought. Every 3 seconds it will do 2 points of damage, after 60 seconds, it will only do about 40 points of damage.

But I did not consider that most normal players could not afford to buy potions. The cheapest potions would require 20 coppers for a flask. Each goblin only drops 2 to 3 coppers. A typical player could not hope to accomplish and take as much risk as I in engaging a Flame Bat. I was very lucky, but did not even realised my luck!

Two "Cha Cha" sounds rang out, and my sword quickly landed on the Flame bat, slaying it. After a last dying cry, it dropped to the ground and dropped some coppers.

"Ding ~!"

Combat notice: You have slain a Flame Bat, and received 120 experience points!

.....

I could help laughing aloud in happiness. It is really true that the greater the danger, the better the rewards. A single goblin only gives ten experience points. But just kill a single Flame Bat could net me 120 experience points!

As I picked up the coins and counted them, I counted 14 coppers. This is also much more generous than the goblins!

But, my health had dropped by more than half. Although the risk is great, it is definitely worth it!

Therefore, I drank a potion, and continued to kill a second Flame Bat!

In less than one minute, I killed the second Flame Bat and received 120 experience points and 19 coppers. But there was not a sight of the quest item [Bat's blood]

This continues until I killed the fifth flame bat, and heard a “Pa Ta” sound, when a flask of red colour liquid dropped onto the ground.

[Bat's Blood] (Quest item)

There seemed to be nothing special about the bat blood, and I just carelessly threw it into my backpack.

Now I had killed five flame bats, and received 600 experience points, but I had also drunk two flasks of healing potions. It is like 40 coppers had just left me. This expenditure made me wince in pain.

The forest is quiet except for the sound of Flame Bat flapping their wings with a “Hu Hu...” sound. At this time, I heard some sounds from my back. One of the other players seemed surprised at my appearance: “Wow! This guy just soloed a level 5 creature!”

I turned my head and saw three level 2 players had come into this area. Not long after one of them creep up to draw a Flame Bat towards them. But the Flame bat was very vicious and immediately bit the player. In just one attack, half the player’s health was lost. The player immediately turn pale and shouted

“Lao Er, Lao San, quickly come and help!”

The two players immediately rushed forwards and their short sticks whammed the Flame Bat on its head. Immediately two numbers appeared on top of that creature’s head.

“-12 !”

“-8 !”

I was watching this screen from a distance, and almost laughed out loud. Without any potent weapons, they dare to attack a creature that is three levels above them. This is no different from seeking death.

As I expected, within 2 minutes, all the three men could not withstand the potent attacks of the Flame Bat, and respawn in the beginner’s village in a flash of light. They left a bloody Flame Bat in the area.

With such an excellent opportunity in front of me, why wouldn’t I grab it?

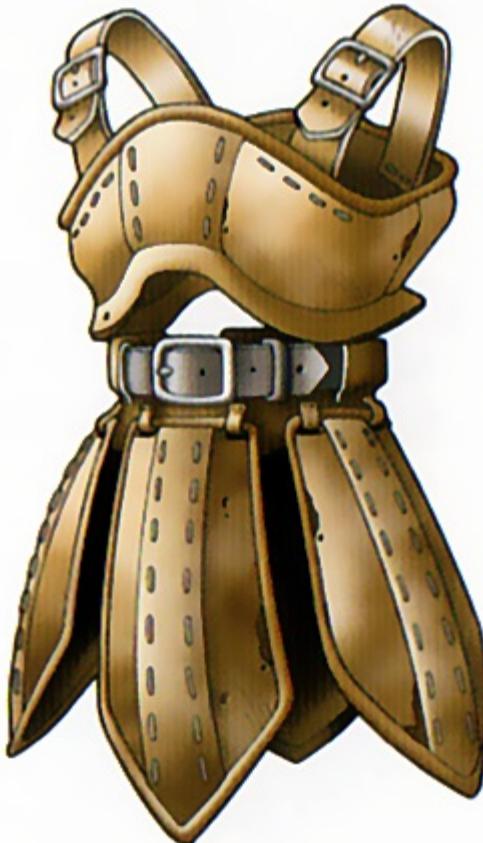
I immediately rushed up and my sword lurched a volley of quick attacks against the injured bat.

“Ka Cha!”

After the resounding noise of my blade hitting the bat, the bat emitted a death cry, and at the same time, there were two “Ding Dong” sound, as if something had dropped onto the ground.

I immediately searched the ground, and discovered 17 copper coins, and a flask of Bat Blood. Also, there is a coloured leather armour!

I was pleasantly surprised, and immediately picked up the armour, and examined it.



**【Bat Leather Armour】**(White colour regular item)

Defence : 8

Required Level : 4

.....

I could not help laughing in glee. Even God is helping me! I was quite unhappy that I did not have any suitable armour. But right now, this is the best thing that ever dropped. If the three men knew that the bat they were targeting had dropped this item, they would turn green with envy!

I looked at my experience bar. Just a little bit more and I will reach level 4!

Therefore, I immediately drank a health recovery potion, and attacked a Flame Bat that was not too far away. After I had killed it, a golden light enveloped me. I had gained a level!

“Ding~!”

System notification: “Congratulations! You have gained a level, and have gained 20 more hits points. You can allocate 5 points of attributes to any of your stats.”

.....

Hahaha! I finally can get to work!

I immediately equipped the bat leather armour, and my defence raised from a measly 4 to a 12 points. I also add all five attribute points to my strength, and

now my attack has reached 16-21!

Although the bat leather armour is not very good looking, it is the first armour that I had won from monsters' drop. This armour could also be the first armour that was dropped in the beginning village. Therefore, wearing this armour, I was very happy and pleased with it.

Having 12 points of attack, I again target the Flame bat with my sword, and to my amazement, an incredible number rose from the head of the Flame bat “-248”!

“What the fuck?!”

I could not believe my eyes. One swing of my sword had taken out half of a level 5 beast hitpoints?

I looked at the combat log. Only did I discovered that I had landed a critical hit.

Even then, with a regular swing of my sword, I could hit a Flame bat for about 124 points of damage. This could be considered not bad!

At this time, the Flame Bat retaliated against me, and I felt a small sting. I was shocked to discover that the Flame Bat poison attack had only done 24 points of damage to me.

I was elated! Looks that wearing this armour have reduced the amount of damage I received greatly. Now I can continuously kill Flame Bats without worries.

Therefore, after killing the Flame Bat in front of me, I continued to seek out more flame bats to kill.

As the time goes on, after about half an hour, I had already received 19 vitals of bat blood. At the same time, I had levelled up to level 5. Fighting against similar level beast was much easier. With just three swings of my sword, I could annihilate a Flame Bat.

After killing another Flame Bat, I picked up the spoils of war-another flask of bat's blood.

I counted the number of vials of bat's blood and confirmed I had 20 flasks! Great. Now I can return and complete the quest!

Therefore, I turned around and prepared to go back to the beginner's village. At this time, I suddenly felt a massive chill in my back. I turned around, and saw something that scared the crap out of me!

Not far away, there suddenly appeared a massive Flame Bat, and it is at least ten times as big as a normal Flame Bat. It was floating in the sky like a small aeroplane.



#### 【Variation Flame Bat】(Variation Beast)

Level : 8

Attack : 20-28

Defence : 18

Life : 2000

Special Attack : Poison

.....

I was shocked. This is a boss level beast. Its attack was so high that it was very scary, doing maximum 28 points of damage with each hit. Its defence was an insane 18 points. My current level 5 character with 26 points of damage could barely break its armour.

The variation bat did not allow me time to think and immediately charged towards me. Its sharp claws racked my armour and left a mark on it.

I felt a massive pain, and from the top of head, a huge number appeared “-88”

Although this is a lucky number, I could find myself being happy [1]. I immediately retaliated and with a “Peng” sound, I managed to do 110 points of damage to the beast.

*[88 in Chinese sounds the same as fortune. It is considered an auspicious number by Chinese. Yes I know, the author's Chinese jokes do not translate well among non-Chinese.]*

The number is not too bad, but I need to have 20 strikes of the blade to kill this variation bat. I looked into my backpack and discovered I had left only five healing points. Would I be able to last and destroy this flame bat?

[To be continued...]

=====

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## Chapter 8

Below is an inspirational video by Bollywood's action Varun Pruthi. He had made a name for helping the poor, the orphans and the homeless in India.



Fruits and Veggies and I are not as noble as he is. We feel humbled when we looked at the work of this man.

And no, we are not trying to change the world or anything. We are just two men trying to do what's right for the community we live in, for the children in the orphanage for our charity drive. Today, I was surprised to note that we have another donor who donated directly to the orphanage: **Mr Brian Rose.**

Whoever he is, on behalf of the children, we wanted to shout a **big Thank you!** Countdown: **18 days** to go before the planned visit to the home.

=====

In front of me, there are only two choices.

1. Be killed by the Variation Flame Bat
2. Kill the Variation Flame Bat

If I have enough healing potions, I could kill this variation flame bat without

any problems. But right now I have but five bottles of healing potions. Each bottle would only restore 100 hit points. Add this sum to my original health, I only have about 780 hit points. Whether this is enough to kill this variation bat is a huge question mark.

But at this moment, with the variation bat attacking me, I could not consider too much. I immediately drank a healing potion. I had no choice – my health was getting low.

“Cha Cha~!”

Then I hit the Variation Flame Bat twice, and again, I managed to knock it 200 hitpoints off it. But the Variation Flame Bat retaliation attack forced me to drink another healing potion

As the battle heated up, I did not think too much, and just focus on chopping the variation bat with all my might. Suddenly, my blade seemed to hit the mouth of the bat, and a massive “-256” damage number appear on top of its head!

I was surprised, but quickly recovered from my surprise. In this game, almost all creatures have weak points. If you focus on the weak points of the creature, it is theoretically possible to win against the creature with half the amount of effort! And the weakness of this variation bat in front of me seemed to be the green colour mouth.

Therefore, I aimed my sword to focus my attacks at its mouth. As my sword slipped into its mouth, a massive “-248” damage number appears!

Seeing the health of this boss creature rapidly diminishing, I was elated and continued to attack. Every two or three hits, I could land a critical hit.

As I reached into my bag, I was shocked to discover that I had used up all my healing potions. I cursed! “Shit! Just when the battle is getting critical, I do not have any more healing potions left! Damn it!”

At this time, the Variation Bat did not have much health left. It opened it huge mouth and attempt to bite me.

I had only 140 points of health remaining, and could only endure the attack.

I bit down on my lips and charged forwards with my sword, and my sword

entered into the mouth of the Variation Bat.

It hurts all over, and my health pummelled by a shocking 120 points. But at the same time, I heard a very welcomed ding sound.

“Ding ~!”

System Notice: You killed the Variation Flame Bat, and received 480 points of experience!

System Notice: You have gained a level.

“Ding Dong!”

The Variation Flame Bat also dropped some stuff, and several silver coins!

That is a shiny war axe!

I was shocked! Did I just strike gold? This item is shining and seemed to be coloured. Is it a magical item? Did I just receive the first magical item in the game?

I immediately pick up the axe and check it

Axe	<b>【Shiny War Axe】(Steel Item)</b>
	Attack : 12-18
	Strength : +4
	Required Level : 6
	.....

Hahaha, this is a steel item, and it is also magical. It also increased my strength by 4 points. That is exactly what I wanted!

I immediately equipped my shiny war axe and my attack immediately increased to 33-40. This could be one of the highest damage in the beginner's village.

I also picked up the silver coins from the floor. This is indeed a powerful beast, and is so much more generous than normal flame bats! It dropped 4 silver coins!

I was so happy as I kept the coins carefully. With the other coins I earned from the drops of the flame bats, the total amount of money I had earn is a whopping 23 silvers and 68 coppers!

I am still far away from the requirement to earn two gold coins. But nevermind, it is still early. I believe that if I continue at this pace, I will definitely be able to earn two gold coins.

Therefore, I packed my stuff, and headed back to the beginner's village.

At this time, the village was full of new players. Of course, out of 10,000 players, 9999 of them were still armed with the rubbish level wooden stick. Therefore, my shiny war axe became the focus of envy as soon as I step into beginner's village.

I was so scared that I immediately choose to hide my name. If someone target me and try to steal my item, that would be extremely bad. I am do not wish to PK (player killer) at this time – PK could be left for later. But now, time is precious, and I should use this time to gain more levels first.

I found Captain Ma Su, and handed over the 20 flasks of bat's blood. He immediately shown a surprised expression as he remarked: "Brave warrior, you really did it! I did not expected you to be able to defeat these terrible bats! Here is your reward!"

"Ding ~!"

System notice: Congratulations on completely the question [\[Clear the fields\]](#). You have gained 2400 experience points, 24 silver coins, +10 to reputation and received an item [\[Wilderness Boots\]](#)!

I was so excited! Another equipment!

**[Wilderness Boots]** (Steel item)

Defence : 14



Strength : +2

Agility : +1

Required Level : 6

.....

Another Steel level item! This time it is even more awesome. It actually provided an increase to two stats! Although the increase is minimal ...

With the experience points rewards, I had levelled up to level 7, and after equipping the Wilderness boots, my defence had reach 26, while my attack had reached a whopping 35-45!

#### Translator notes:

Looking my sword, I immediately ran up to the village entrance and gave a shout. "Sword with Attack of 1-4 for sale! If you are interested, please make an offer. This offer is only good for three minutes!"

And to my surprise, I was swarmed with hordes of players who crowded around me and angrily bellow: "Sell it to me! Sell it to me!"

Facing the crowd, I immediately shouted: "The highest bidder wins!"

Very quickly, many people begin to count their money. One of them shouted: "I offer 1 silver coin!"

Another man shouted: "1 silver? You think you are buying a chicken is it? I offer 2 silvers..."

A large shout erupt! "Handsome! Sell the weapon to me, I will be your wife!"

The crowd scolded the shameless shouter severely: "Shit! You look so bad and still dared to stand out! Quickly go back to Planet Mars!"

At this time, a player walked out and said: I offer 20 silvers. Sell it to me!"

20 silvers. Once this price is shouted out, the surrounding men all became quiet. Who is so rich as to gain 20 silvers in such a short time?

As I looked around, I saw that no one else could afford to offer this price. Therefore, I initiated a trade with him, and exchange the sword for 20 silvers. At the same time, I remember his name – Dragon Soul Sword Fire.

Looks like this is a professional player. Otherwise, it would be impossible for him to earn so much silvers in such a short time.

I was very happy. A broken sword could sell for such a high price. If I take out my axe or my boots for sale, how much could I make?

Of course, I will not really sell these items. With these items, I can quickly gain levels, and get more and better equipment.

After leaving the crowd, I quickly made my way to the potion shops. I was perturbed that a potion that heal 100 hit points cost 20 coppers, but a potion that heals 300 hit points cost 2 silver! The difference is so big. But the effect is also much stronger. Now that I have reached level 7, my health is 320, and using the 300 hit points potion is just nice.

Actually, the higher the grade of potions, the faster the health is restored. Sometimes, having a higher grade potion can save my life!

Looking at my backpack, I now have 43 silvers and 68 coppers. I spent almost all my money to buy 15 light healing potions (that restore 300 hit points), and purchase 27 minor healing potions (that restore 100 hit points). In times of emergencies, I will use the light healing potions. But in between fights, a minor healing potion should be more than enough.

Once again, I become penniless!

I believe that I should be able to get back my investment. As I return to Captain Su Ma to enquire about any other possible quests, Captain Su Ma seemed to say "The Village Chief seemed to be troubled by something."

"Yi, is this a hint?"

I immediately returned to the village, and visited the village Chief. He lived in

the biggest hut in the middle of the village. At this time, most of the players were outside of the village grinding levels, and few if any remains in the village. Therefore I was the only one who entered the hut and visited the village Chief.

Upon seeing me, the Village Chief immediately sigh, “The evil demons had begun to attack the area around Twilight City. Our village is also affected by this attack. At the west side of the village, large number of evil creatures have appeared. Young man, are you willing to help us?”

“Ding~!”

System prompt: “Will you accept this quest?”

I immediately confirmed that I accepted the quest.

The Village Elder continued to speak: “A team of brave conscript soldiers are trapped within an outpost on the west side. Hopefully, you can save them.”

“Ding ~!”

System notice: You have accept the quest [[Clear the Outpost](#)]! (Beginner's quest. Difficulty: 80)

Quest Details: Go to the west of the village, and find the outpost. Kill the slimes there, and retrieve 100 slime medals.

.....

I was so stunned like a vegetable. What the hell is slime medal? I had never heard that slimes got a medal for meritorious service!

I put my thoughts to the back of my head. It does not matter. I should know when I reach there.

This mission difficulty is 80. With my current level of 7, these slimes should not be any lower in level than myself. As well, I need to collect 100 slime medals. This is really very troublesome – an ordinary creature only drops a quest item 20% of the time. This also mean that I need to kill about 500 slimes to complete this mission!

Therefore, I picked up my Shiny War Axe, and headed towards the West area.

Perhaps my Shiny War Axe really stand out, but very quickly a lot of people threw looks of envy towards me. But they did not do anything.

But just when I left the village, I heard a voice behind me. “Friend, I can ask you something?”

I turned around and found that there were three level 6 players standing behind me. They seemed to have followed me for a long time, and their name are similar – all of their name begins with Fated. “Fated Madman,” “Fated Turbulence,” and “Fated Bloodthirsty”. What weird names!

The most interesting thing is that Fated Turbulence is a very beautiful woman, and the shabby beginner clothes could barely hide her towering twin peaks.

I had not met a top class beauty like Ling Xue, I think I would be struck dumb by this Fate Turbulence and lost my senses.

Looking at that, I immediately asked: “What do you want?”

Fated Madmen laughed out aloud and pointed towards my axe. “Will you sell your weapon?”

I immediately shook my head: “Of course not!”

Fated Madman looked sinister as he asked: “What if we insist on buying?”

I was shocked, but I smiled and asked: “How do you proposed to buy it?”

[To be continued...]

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# Chapter 9



*Here you go, another chapter for your enjoyment.*

*This chapter had many first.*

- *The first PK appears.*
- *The first recurring enemy appears.*
- *The first Boss appears.*

*No more spoilers. Enjoy!*

---

Fated Madman suddenly took out a long sword. This is also an iron sword. It looks like a white colour regular item, and there was no colour on it. Fated Bloodthirsty also took out a dagger, and it also look like a white colour regular item.

Seeing that my face seemed to drop at the sight of them flashing their weapons, Fated Madman laughed out loud, “You have seen for yourself, there are three of us, but only one of you. If you are willing to sell that weapon, I am prepared to pay a high price. But if you are not willing to sell, then you better not blame me for ‘conducting a very unprofitable transaction’ ....”

Looks that this battle could not be avoided. This Fated Madman seemed to have lost his senses as he looked at my axe.

I smiled and replied, “Since it is like this, let’s not waste time and begin the

battle, my time is very precious!"

Fated Madman immediately gripped his iron sword tightly, while remarking, "You do not know how to appreciate our kindness!"

At this time, the beautiful Fated Turbulence grabbed Fated Madman's hand and shouted, "Brother! Why did you go back on your words? Didn't you told me that you will be a good man in this <>Spirit of Grief<> game? Why are you seeking trouble?"

Fated Madman laughed sinisterly, "This kid did not understand that we are doing him a favour and is too arrogant! I just want to teach him a lesson!"

Fated Turbulence looked heartbroken as she walked to one side, and sticked out her tongue, "Then you do it yourself! I am not going to participate!"

"Relax! Bloodthirsty and I are more than enough to take care of him!"

Fated Madman looked at me in the eye, and remarked, "This little bird is too green, I did not even put him in my eyes!"

"He He!" I secretly smiled and with a cold heart, I attacked him with my axe!  
"Puff~!"

A piece of mud was sliced into two, but my axe did not even touch Fated Madman!

At the same time, Fated Madman eyes were full of contempt as he laughed, "This is definitely a newbie! Bloodthirsty, let's finish him!"

The iron sword retaliated against me. At the same time, Fated Bloodthirsty had reached my right flank and his dagger hit me.

"Puff Puff~!"

There was a slight pain, and two numbers appeared from the top of my head, "-24, -32"!

At this time, both Fated Madman and Fated Bloodthirsty seemed to be shocked as they exclaimed, "What the fuck? Such a high defence!"

The combined damage from these two men did not even take out 25% of my hit points. This surprised them. At the same time, for attacking a player, their

name become change to grey colour, indicating that they are player killers. This is the exact moment I was waiting for!

“Hu~!”

This time, my shiny war axe hit Fated Bloodthirsty on his chest. I heard a clear sound of weapon landing on him, and he was sent flying with just one hit! What is even more amazing is that he had not yet landed on the ground before a flash of white light respawn him back in the beginner village.

Fated Madman was enraged as he lifted his iron sword and charged towards me, while scolding me, “You bastard, how dare you kill my buddy!”

I did not say another word, and my shiny war axe rushed to meet his charge. It hit Fated Madman on his armpit, and a massive “-178” number appeared on top of his head. It did not managed to kill him, and the iron sword also handed on my shoulders, but it did a measly “-27” points of damage.

I could not help laughing at the pitiful attack. As I pass by him, I whispered, “If you don’t have the ability, then you should not follow others and pretend to be a boss!”

“Pa~!”

Another sound rang out, and my shiny war axe strike Fated Madman on his shoulder, and sent him flying. A massive “-234” damage number appears on the top of his head. This is enough to kill him twice. Seemed that Fated men are fated to be killed by me.

In killing two grey out PKs (Player Killers), I did not even get any bad reputation. What is even funnier is that the Fated Madman even dropped several bottles of minor healing potions. I picked them up and threw them into my backpack. I should say a word of thanks the next time I meet them. After all, they were so kind as to gift me with free healing potions!

Fated Turbulence was looking at me with her mouth dropped open. She stood there for a full minute, before saying, “Sorry....”

I guessed, she was afraid that I would also attack her and send her back to the village.

I just smiled and said, “Kill more monster and less PK (Player Kill), in this way your level will grow faster!”

Fated Turbulence nodded her head, and apologise once again, before turning around and leaving.

After this small disturbance, I finally get back to my current quest. I headed towards the direction of the outpost, with the intent to remove the monsters residing there.

Along the way, the aggressive small goblins near me often charged towards me with a yell, but these level 1 creatures could not even pose any threat to me. With a chop of my shiny war axe, small goblins were launched into the air, gifting me with 10 experience points and about 3 coppers per goblin slain.

Accordingly to my research about the <>Spirit of Grief<> game, within the China area, there are two large main cities. In the jurisdiction of each of the main city, but there are five secondary cities. Surrounding each secondary cities are small villages, and towns. Right now, one of these small villages should be my beginner’s village.

At this time is the rush hour for gamers as many people had stopped work and reached home. There are a large number of players who are logged into the game. Many people did not even had their dinner before they logged into the game. This also led to the situation where the beginners’ village is soon overcrowded.

It soon became impossible to level up near the village. So the players began to hunt in the forests surrounding the village. Of course, there are a lot of high level monsters waiting for them, which may bring them experience and wealth, or a sudden death!

As I made my way towards the West, I saw that a lot of players were trying to kill level 3 Goblins, and some of the players have formed teams of 3 to 5 players to co-operatively hunt higher level Flame Bat and Wolves. But after I crossed a hill, the area was filled to the brim with slimes of all size. This area did not even have a single player except for me!

Slimes are type of green colour creatures that resembles green colour mud. They have a range attack – these creatures can spit out globes of poison. This

gives most players a headache. These slimes had a habit of using hit and run attacks to lead players in a merry go round, and create all sort of problems for players.

At this time, a slime excitedly rushed towards me. Just when it is only a few feet away from me, it suddenly spat out a smelly green colour liquid on me. I felt intense pain from this attack, and was shocked to discovered that I had lost 70 hit points!

I immediately stole a glance the characteristics of this slime



【Green Coloured Slime】(Normal monster)

Level : 10

Attack: 25-35

Defence : 10

Hit Points : 800

Special Attack: Spit Poison (Range attack)

.....

Holy shit! This is a level 10 monster! No wonder the difficulty is 80. With my current level of 7, fighting this creature is going to be tough!

Luckily I had the **[Bat skin Leather Armour]** and **[Wilderness Boots]**. These two items boost my defence. If not for these equipments, I think one hit will wipe out half or more than half of my hit points!

But now is the time for battle, and I swing my axe. But I was greatly surprised when the slime sudden turn tail and ran, and my axe hit the empty air!

I could not help but winced, and chased after it as fast as I could. This time, I did not attack carelessly. After observing its movement, only then did I lash out. My shiny axe aimed for the place where the slime was moving to, and hit the slime. Some poisonous liquid ooze out from the wound, and its health dropped by a staggering “-254” points!

Looks like the attack of this slime may be deadly, but its defence is very weak. This type of high attack and low defence creatures are exquisite practice! Of

course, this only applies when you have a lot of healing potions stocked up!"

I was feeling super pleased with myself. This time, I really had great foresight. I may not have many items with me but I do have a lot of healing potions!

After observing the Slime's movements, I had already grasped their movement. Each time they move their fat butts, I could guess the direction in which they try to flee in. My shiny war axe would strike it with almost 100% accuracy. A slime only had 800 hit points. When I hacked at it for the fourth time, it find uttered a "Zhi Zhi" death cry, and dropped several coppers.

I checked and discovered to my delight that for each slime I killed, I receive 260 experience points.

With a mixture of pride and happiness, I was glad to note that while most of the players were targeting goblins that yield only 10 experience points, I had already single-handedly defeated a powerful slime!

Far in the distance, there seemed to be a simple outpost. The outpost seemed to have two soldiers looked that they were in a panic. It is not surprising, since the outpost was surrounded by slimes. This placed had been overran with slime, and my job is to turn these lovely creatures into experience points and copper coins!

The slime that I just killed had dropped 48 coppers. Although this creature has no pockets, it is a very wealthy monster!

I did not waste time, and carefully crept closer. Once I attract the attention of a slime, I immediately retreat to get it to follow me and lure it to a safe place. After that I used my trusty axe to finish it off. Right now, I could take on a single slime. But there were two or more slimes, I think even the light healing potions would be useless.

A typical slime had an attack score of up to 35 points and do at least 70 points of damage to me, even when I am equipped with steel level equipment. Against most people without the same equipment, it could result in an instant kill.

Time slowly passed. Killing each slime require me to spend at least one minute to complete the job. Killing them is easy, but luring them out is an art. More than

once, I accidentally lured two slimes, and this was a nightmare as I had to consume my expensive healing potions. Somehow, I miraculously managed to hang on for dear life, even though I had my hit points reduce to single digits a few times. A few draught of my minor healing potions later, I was ready to challenge the mighty slimes again.

I fought over five hours, and to my surprise it is now one a.m. I had long lost count of how many slimes I killed. But I can confirm that the number of slime medals in my bag had been steadily increasing. But the thing that made me most annoyed is that after killing so many slimes, I only got one level 8 regular white colour leggings. It offers 9 points of defence. I had nothing to lose, and immediately equipped it.

At this time, I had also reached level 10. At this level, I can change my class. But I am still short of 1 more slime medal to complete the 100 slime medals quest. Therefore, I decided to complete this quest before returning to the beginner village to get my class change.

By now, more and more high-level players came into this area, and many of them began to kill the slimes. Among the men, the highest level players were already level 8 or 9. But in the entire area, only I had reached level 10. Surprisingly, most of the men did not receive any quest, and none of the slimes they killed dropped any slime medal.

After killing a few more slimes, finally one of the slimes dropped a slime medal. I had finally completed this quest!

But at this time, suddenly there was a golden ray of light, and then sounds of angry shouts rang out. After that, there was flash of white light as over 10 players were instant killed and sent back to the beginner's village to respawn.

I looked up and saw a massive golden colour slime that was slaughtering the men. Each time golden colour poison was spit out, it would always resulted in an instant kill. The men who were dressed in the beginner's rags had no way of fighting this beast.

On top of the head of this massive creature was the words, "Golden Slime King!"

I sucked in a deep breath. Shit! A super level boss finally appears!

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# Chapter 10



Yeah!!! This series had its first sponsor! This chapter is sponsored by Thomas Edwards. Please remember to thank him for his donation!

## A word about donation:

Please, do not donate to us because you pity fruits & veggies and I for being deaf. Frankly, there are so many people worldwide that need help who are much worse off than us. For example, the elderly, the orphans, the physically handicapped and the intellectual handicapped. In fact, we donate part of the proceeds to these people who really needs help in our charity drive for a local orphanage here.

We did not announce our deafness to gather donations. It is part of who we are, and our identity. We talk about our deafness openly, and perhaps share with the world unique insights into the life of two ordinary deaf men.

We do welcome donations from people who love our work of translating the novels, and fruits' and veggies' unique novel. After all, we did work hard for these. Each chapter took about 4-5 hours to translate, and come complete with pictures, link to glossary, etc. Yes, I know, I need not do all of these. But it enhances the reader's experience, and provide a more enjoyable experience, yes? We are glad you like our work and donate to us.

Today I was happy that there is a generous donor. But his note stated that he did not quite trust us, and hope we are really deaf and were not trying to cheat

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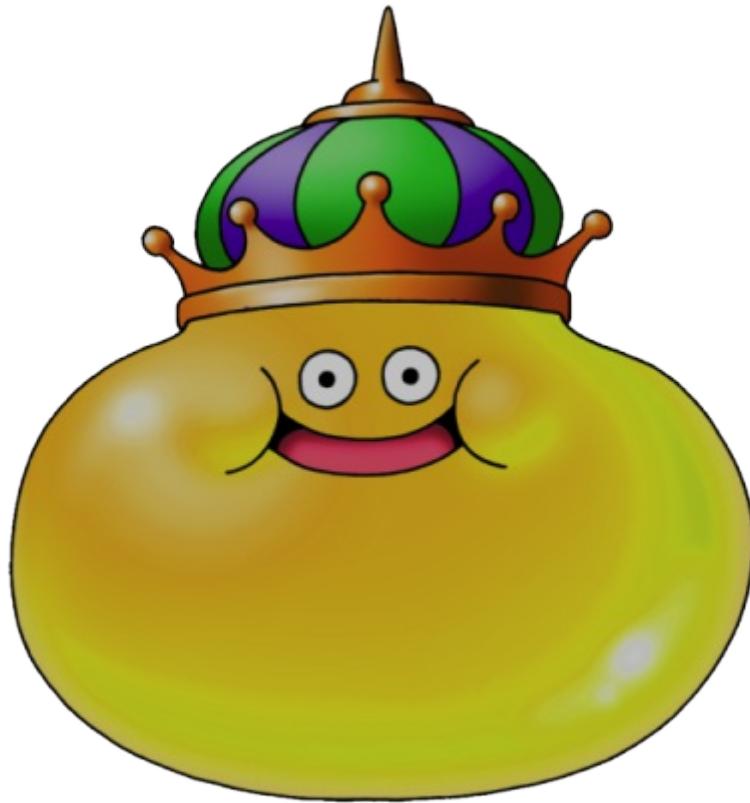
=====

A moment later, the powerful poison spit instantly killed most of the players in the area. Their defence was really too low. As for me, my 35 defence could barely resist the attack. Each time it hit, it does an incredible “-150” points of damage. I was so scared that I wolfed down the expensive light healing potion that cure 300 points of damage.

The healing potions do not instantly restore all hit points immediately. Instead, each healing potion only restores 150 hit points, and the remaining 150 hit points are restored over time.

Although I was in a precocious situation, I was elated. My heartbeat could not help but quicken and I could hear it beating in rhythmical tune “pa pa pa pa...”. This new boss had spawned near me, and I still have several bottles of healing potions.

I stole a quick look at the characteristic of the boss



Boss)

Level : 15

Attack : 85-150

Defence : 25

Life : ? ? ?

Special Attack : Long distance poison spit.

.....

The attack score of this boss is really scary, with a max attack of 150. Just a normal attack would wipe out 150 points of my life. And the health of this boss is a huge question mark, and only God knows how much hit points it has.

The shiny war axe also hit the slime King on its head, and the creature who was as big as a tank seemed to bounce back in pain. From the top of its head, a massive number appear “-135”!

Hehe! Yes! Look like my attack is still effective against its defence. Luckily I have allocated all my attribute points into strength. After all, the best defence is a good offence. In any role-playing game, the one who kill the other party first always wins.

At the same time, the slime King spat out another glob of poison, and my hit points dropped by a whopping -167! That was half of my hit points!

Again I wolf down a healing potion. I refused to retreat, and my shiny war axe continued to wave its dance of destruction!

After ten mins, the slime king’s health had dropped to about 90%. Looks like the hit points of this creature was not too scary. But my problem is that my potions were disappearing like water. I have very few potions left.

Suddenly, I saw that there was a massive group of players from afar who were rushing towards me and the slime boss. I took a look at them, and my heart turned cold.

Each of the people in this group of players coincidentally has the words “Fated” in their names. It looks like the “Fated” clan had all gathered here, and there were close to 300 of them!

This Fated clan is really a powerful group, to have such a big presence in the beginner’s village!

Seeing the group of men did not come with good intentions, I immediately stop fighting the Golden Slime King and ran away towards the forest.

But at this time, I saw a man who separated from the group of players, and shouted out aloud, “So you cowardly cat had decided to run? Not so easy! Brothers, help me kill him. That is the guy who offended me!”

That man was Fated Madman! Besides him stood Fated Bloodthirsty. I did not see Fated Turbulence anywhere. I had no idea where she had gone to,

Listening to Fated Madman, several men also move towards me. More than half of them were still using the beginner’s stick. I could not help but to laugh out loud. With this equipment, they still want to engage in PK?

But the fact is, there were too many of them. Even an army of ants could bite an elephant to death. I definitely do not have any ability to fight against 300 men.

I tightly held my shiny war axe, and stared at the players. Although I did not say a word, my attitude informed them that I will chop whoever dares to strike first!

Therefore, those who were carrying the beginner’s stick were cowed, and not a single one of them dared to step forwards.

Fated Madman angrily bellowed, “Useless! You all are good for nothings! Attack!!”

At this time, another group of men also arrive. This area is suddenly filled with players. Although it is unknown if the two groups are enemies, it is obvious that

the second groups' had every intent to steal kill the slime king. I guess that all the players who were killed about ten minutes ago had respawned in the village, and spread the news of a powerful boss. This action probably resulted in these two dominant groups of players who rushed here with the intent to steal the boss.

And this group of new players were mostly level 8 and up. Their name were also uniform and began with "Sword Fire".

Sword Fire?

I suddenly recalled that my iron sword was sold to a man named Dragon Soul Sword Fire?

At this time, a man walked in front of the group of new players. It really is Dragon Soul Sword Fire! He laughed as he spoke, "Woah, I was thinking how come it is so crowded here. Never did I expected that Fated clan had already arrived before us!"

At this time, the Dragon Soul Sword Fire had already changed his weapon, and it is now a shiny steel sword. It looks like a steel level equipment, and it should not be inferior to my weapon. I did not expect that he had such a fantastic weapon.

But I should not be surprised. After all, Dragon Soul Sword Flame seemed the head of the Sword Flame clan. It would be strange only if he did not have any superior equipment!

Looking at the Sword Flame Clan that seemed to be filled with hostile intent, the Fated Clan's men stepped back. Most of the people in the clan were not very high level, and there were very few players who were above level 8. In contrast, the Sword Flame Clan men seemed to be much stronger, but were outnumbered. There were only about 100 players from the Sword Flame Clan.

Fated Madman stepped out, "I did not expect that Dragon Soul also started out in this newbie village. This is really a case of 'enemies are fated to meet one another' [1] !"

Dragon Soul Sword Flame laughed out loud, "Did not expect that you guys also abandoned <>Moon Monochrome<> game and all of you joined the <>Spirit of Grief<>. We are also old pals. In the game <>Moon Monochrome<> after Swords

and Rose and the Unhappy Garden big guilds were disbanded, our group fought against each other for control of the West side. I did not expect that in this game, things also remained the same!"

Fated Madman also smiled sinisterly, "Hehe! Brother Dragon Soul, today, I have a personal grudge against this kid. If Brother Dragon is willing to give face, please bring your men and leave. I will just kill this player and settle my grudge."

Dragon Soul Sword Flame looked at me, and seemed to recognise me. It is hard not to do so, since my shiny war axe seemed to be unique and very eye catching!

Dragon Soul Sword Flame laughed out loud, "Of course I will give you face, and let you settle your grudges. But you must let us have the Golden Slime King. I could not let my men ran here in vain, isn't that right?"

Fated Madman immediately turned cold, "You son of a bitch better stop talking bullshit! Nobody will let you have the boss!"

At this time, a player wielding a massive axe walked out from among the crowd. This is the man who had changed his profession to Berserker class. His name is Sword Flame Punisher. He laughed out loud, "Fated Clan wishes to swallow this Golden Slime King? Do you have the ability? Hahahaha, don't you sons of bitches continue to kneel here, and let us laugh at you!"

Sword Flame Punisher's words made Fated Madman lost a lot of face, and he immediately bellowed, "Damn it! You Sword Flame dogs were trying to rob us!"

Dragon Soul Sword Flame immediately replied, "Stop the trash talk! When have you ever not taken advantage of the situation to rob others? You had killed so many individual players by PK. We will have to settle this debt sooner or later."

"You know best what type of men your Fated Clan members are. You like to cheat new players or threaten the weak, and betray your allies. Tell me, which one of these dirty deeds have you not done before? I even heard that you had arranged some women to engage in prostitution in this game? I spit! You are shameless to participate in this sort of things!"

The words touched Fated Madman on a sore spot, and his face turns green with rage and shame. He angrily shouted, "Damn it! Brothers, today the Sword

Flame Clan refused to give way. Let these idiots know our might!"

This time, the throng of Fated Clan players brandished their wooden staff and broken swords as they rushed to meet their enemy!

Dragon Soul Sword Flame sneered, "Let them attack!"

After the first round of hits had been calculated, the players from the Sword Flame Clan who were standing in front were PKed. But all of the players from the Fated Clan had turned into grey colour indicating that they were player killers.

Sword Flame Punisher laughed and stepped forward with his axe held high. As his axe descended, a red colour flash of Dou Qi emerged, and a few Fated Clan players were instantly killed.

Fated Madman began to bark out orders: "Team 1, stop the shit heads from Sword Flame Clan, Team 2 and Team 3, try to kill the Golden Slime King at the earliest possible time!"

For a short period, the Sword Flame Clan's players were blocked and could not get to the Golden Slime King. As for the Fated Clan, they divided their players into two teams. One of the teams of players were assigned to attack the Sword Flame Clan, while the other group of players were assigned to slay the Golden Slime King.

I quietly entered the forest, and could not help being unwilling to leave. The boss that I had found and engaged was stolen by these two groups of fuckers. A single player is really at a significant disadvantage!

I was not willing to give up, and therefore, I did not leave. I just hide in the forest and watch the battle unfold.

Although the level of the Fated Clan's men were average, there were also a few that were outstanding. One or two of them had already changed classes, and are mages. They launched fireball and boulders at the Golden Slime King. This becomes their primary source of damage output. As expected, the beginner's wooden staff could not even scratch the defence of the Golden Slime King.

Time slowly passed by. The Golden Slime King's health dropped to less than 50%. But it also instantly killed over 100 players. Only the mage standing at a far distance away continued to launch fireballs at it. The rest of the low levelled

players were nothing more than cannon fodder.

On the other side, the Sword Flame men also noticed the situation, and they renewed their valour and attacked the Fated Clan members who were blocking their path, sending them back to respawn in the beginner village.

Sparkles of white light continuously emerged from the battlefield, and in an instant, there were less than 50 Fated Clan members left.

Seeing that they had lost control of the situation, Fated Madman had no choice but to concede grudgingly. He roared out the order to retreat.

The Fated Clan's players want to scatter and flee but the Sword Flame group of players had no intention of letting them go! Many of them were slain, and even Fated Madman was sent back to the beginner's village by a swing of Sword Flame Punisher's axe.

After a few minutes, there are no more Fate Clan members, and the entire battleground was claimed by the Sword Flame group of players.

After killing the players, Sword Flame Clan had about 60 men left, but half of these men had their name turned red from PK. If these men die, they will lose levels.

But with the massive Golden Slime King boss in front of them, none of them give a damn, and immediately surrounded and attack it.

I still did not leave, and patiently waited.

[To be continued...]

## Notes:

不是冤家不聚头 [1] **actual translation:** Not enemies will not butt heads.  
**Actual meaning:** Enemies are fated to meet.

## Manners please

# Manners

Thank You      Please



*This chapter is sponsored by Thomas Edwards. Please remember to thank him for his donation!*

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# Chapter 11



Another Elderly with  
Cardboard boxes. And no, it is  
not the one we brought from.  
The above is another picture we  
found on the internet. What I  
just want to say is, it is a sad  
story to see so many elderly  
struggling to survive.

*Did Fruits and Veggies find the woman we met yesterday?*

*No.*

*He found another elderly lady collecting cardboard boxes, and offered her \$10  
for about 20 boxes.*

*She was jubilant and wanted to give him the entire thing trolley full of boxes,  
but he declined. She tried to said something. He pointed to his ears and shook  
his hand to tell her he is deaf. She just smiled at him.*

*A smile is a universal language. Seeing her smile with her toothless grin made  
Fruits and Veggies feel euphoric.*

*We used to have Confucious values such as filial piety and taking care of old folks. Today's world seemed like every man for themselves. Sometimes, in the pursuit of money, we lose sight of the plight of the penniless and disadvantaged among us.*

*I wonder what can I do to help these elderly folks... Then I realised that I do not have the power to help everyone who needs help. I am not superman. But I will endeavour to do the best I can to help my fellow men, in whatever way I can. I guess that why Fruits and Veggies and I love to organise support for orphans or elderly.*

*Doing all these small acts of kindness and helping whoever we can is very satisfying. Today I am glad to note that our donation for the orphan home had exceeded \$300. My initial target was \$200. I want to say a big thank you to all readers and donors for making this possible. And this time, on Dec 18th we will try to take pictures show you the smiles of the children whose life you touched. I am sure you will grin like Fruits & Veggies' silly smile when you discover how much you meant to the children. God bless you!*

*P.S. Readers, you have achieved another gold medal by commenting and raising funds for charity. See here <https://youjinsite.com/donations-2/christmas-charity-donation-drive/>*

=====

Fireball spells were cast and hit the Golden Slime King, and the Boss health dropped significantly. The Sword Flame group is an experienced and well-coordinated group. Immediately after the mages cast their spells, several berserkers wearing heavy armour rushed forwards to take the return strike of the Golden Slime King. Those that were hit immediately drank a healing potion.

Many of the players did not have proper equipment. Many of them have just a pair of white colour shoes or some leggings, and the number of men with more than 20 defence is rare. Therefore, Flame Sword Clan requested for coordination. They would take turns to tank the Golden Slime King. When the first group of tanks were injured, they will retreat and the second group of tanks will take over.

But even then, the Golden Slime King is indeed a terrifying boss. It managed to

kill many tanks. What is worse is that the Golden Slime King had a very formidable range attack. Many players did not even have the chance to close in before they were instant-killed.

However, the coordinated attacks were taking their toll on the boss, and its health continued to drop.

Looking at the Boss's health that was rapidly diminishing, I was feeling conflicted at heart. Should I rush out to steal kill, or just remain here and watch them kill the boss that I engaged first?

Frankly, the Sword Flame group of men does not look as despicable as the Fated Clan. I can feel their group member's friendliness and willingness to cooperate with each other. Therefore, my impression of them is quite good.

But even if my impression of them is not bad, they try to steal my boss.....

Just when I was hesitating, a sudden change occurs.

“Roar! Roar!!”

A terrible loud cry rang out as the Golden Slime King shouted in anger. Before the Golden Slime King collapsed, it suddenly seemed to glow with a golden ray of light, and then its body become even bigger!

At this time, Dragon Soul Sword Flame shouted, “Be careful, this boss had mutated!”

Sword Flame Punisher quipped in, “What rotten luck! The first boss we fought immediately mutated!”

The Golden Slime King let loose another angry roar, and suddenly a wave of golden light spread out in a large circumference around its body. With a “Hu” sound, it heralds the next wave of attacks!

“Cha cha cha cha....”

A series of sounds rang out, and this unexpected attack hit almost all the Sword Flame players! Many of the players displayed a staggering “-200” damage above their heads. Those who have less than 200 hit points were immediately slain, and a flash of white light sent back to the beginner village to respawn. Even the heavily armour tanks lost one-third of their hit points in one attack!

What is worse is that the attack did not end yet. The Golden Slime King continued to roar loudly, and the second wave of golden light again erupted and attacked all players within the massive area of effect!

Dragon Soul Sword Flame was shocked, “Damn it! This time we were unlucky!”

Sword Flame Punisher shrugged as he replied, “We should not have become so greedy. I already told you earlier that kill steal is wrong.....”

“Fuck... off”

With the last two words, both Sword Flame Punisher and Dragon Soul Sword Flame were instantly killed.

After that, it became a one-sided massacre. All the Sword Flame men were sent back to the beginner’s village by the fourth wave of golden light. The Golden Slime King seemed to be on drugs and reached a high, as it continued to launched 5<sup>th</sup> wave, 6<sup>th</sup> wave ..... until I lost count.

But, I am very patient. I just waited for my chance. I was hiding behind a tree, and the tree help to block all the damage from the golden rays of light. Therefore, although I am very close to the Golden Slime King, I am very safe.

From afar, many players watched this super boss as it show off its might. But not a single one of them dares to go up. Even the large group of Sword Flame clan players were annihilated to the last men, how could individual players fight against it?

After about ten mins, the boss finally calmed down. The golden aura also dimmed!

I guess I was very close to the boss, and thus I received a piece of critical news!

“Ding ~!”

.....

Combat notice: The Golden Slime King had ended its rampage and is now weaken. Its defence has dropped by 50%

I was elated! My patience had paid off, and my chance had come at last. The weakness of this boss is the best moment to kill it.

Therefore, I immediately emerged from my hiding place, and my shiny war axe chopped towards its head.

“-346 ! ”

Wow! A 300 points damage is really cool. The weaken Golden Slime King is now nothing but a piece of experience and loot. Although its poison spit is still powerful, I still have some healing potions. Therefore, I attack it with all my might.

The players saw my actions from afar, and many of them rushed forwards, and shouted, “Where did this kid come from? Quick, attack! If not, we will be too late!”

I did not care about these players and focused on killing the boss. With another mighty cleave, I spilt a hole in its head. Then the boss huge body toppled down as it collapsed!

“Ding ~!”

System notice: Congratulations! You killed the boss Golden Slime King. You receive 50,000 experience and +300 reputation.

.....

I skipped a level and levelled up to level 12. Also I noticed that the Golden Slime King dropped two items!

I immediately kept the two items in my backpack before any of the men arrive, and searched the corpse. There is nothing else, but there are some gold coins.

Wooahhh... there are several gold coins!

Gold coins! This boss drop gold coins!

I counted them and discovered 12 gold coins. In addition, there are a lot of silver coins.

Many silver coins were scattered on the grass, and it took me some time to find them all. If not for the fact that they were dispersed in the same area, I would not want these silver coins.

As I picked up the 84<sup>th</sup> silver coins, the players who were eyeing the boss

finally reach me. Many of them tried to observe me. After all, it is said that each boss had a guarantee item drop the first time it was killed. The second time, the chance of dropping an item drop by half. The third time, the chance of dropping an item also drop by another half, and so on.

I looked at them, the highest level player among them was level 8. They were still equipped with the iron sword. I was not afraid of them!

Therefore, I waved my axe in a threatening matter as I barked out, "What? You want a piece of me?"

Listening to my words, some of the player hesitated. A few of them shook their heads and left.

But at this moment, suddenly another group of men arrive. These are all members of the Sword Flame!

This time, there were only 4 of them. Two of the players include Dragon Soul Sword Flame and Sword Flame Punisher. The other one is called Ghost Fire Sword Flame and he is a level 10 necromancer!

Necromancer! This is a hidden character class!

But the one that I was most surprise at is the last member of the team. It is a female player named Purple Rhythm, and she is a level 10 priest!

Purple Rhythm was wearing a white colour robe. But the robe was tightly wrapped around her body, revealing a first class figure. Her massive tits stood upright and tall, making her especially enchanting. Her round buttocks were full and looked very sexy. Under the short robes, her snow-white and smooth legs make it irresistible for men not to look.

This Purple Rhythm is also one of the most beautiful woman I ever met. When compare to Ling Xue, she lose out in terms of youthfulness, but she added a lot of matured lady charms. Because, this woman looks like she is about 25 years old, while Ling Xue should be less than 20 years old.

My glance stopped at Purple Rhythm's body for about 3 seconds, then I looked at the others. This let Dragon Soul Sword Flame feel astonished, while Purple Rhythm seemed to slightly curl at the corner of her mouth. Perhaps they were surprised that my eyes seem to be clear of lust?

I could not help it. Somehow I keep comparing each woman I met with Ling Xue. Had I fallen for her? Does she even know that I think of her each time I meet a beauty?

Dragon Soul Sword Flame looked at the corpse of the Golden Slime King that was slowly fading out, and he laughed as he asked, "Brother, did you kill this boss?"

I nodded my head, and admit it. "Yes I did. I was the first one to fight this boss, and the last one to kill it."

My words seemed to imply that I did not kill steal.

Dragon Soul Sword Flame looked very pleased as he broke into a smile "Then we should congratulate you! Oh yes, did you have any items. If you have any items you do not want, can you consider selling it to us first. We will give you .... Twice the standard market rate!"

I suspiciously glanced at him, and Dragon Soul Sword Flame then laughed, "Sorry, I forgot to introduce myself. I am Dragon Soul, and these are my friends, Punisher, Ghost Fire and Purple Rhythm. We are all online pals, and transferred here from <>Moon monochrome<> game. We just want to find some glory, and our guild is call Sword Flame. Right now we have about 100 members. Of course, the core of our guild are the four of us!"

I smiled back at him, "So, you do not know each other in real life?"

Dragon Soul also laughed, "We are from different regions, and have spoken on the telephone before. Punisher and I are from the Dong Bei Province, Ghost Fire is from Shanghai, and this lovely woman is from Suzhou."

"Yi? Same as me?" I was surprised.

Purple Rhythm also seemed to be surprised, and glanced at me, but did not say anything.

Dragon Soul continued, "Friend, since you can steal this boss from Sword Flame and the Fated guilds, you must be indeed extraordinary! Are you willing to be our friend, and join us to conquer the world together? Also, I still don't know your player name...."

At this moment, I suddenly recalled that I had hidden my name in the beginner's village to avoid trouble....

Therefore, I unhide my name.

"Easily Angered Bookworm...." Dragon Soul read my name and immediately laughed. It is an excellent name. Oh yes, you see what items the boss dropped. If after you have chosen your class, you can sell whatever you do not need to us. We will give you a superb price!"

At the same time, Dragon Soul requested to add me as a friend. I immediately accept. Punisher and Ghost Fire also added me as a friend, while Purple Rhythm stood at one side. I asked to add her as a friend. She lifted up her hand to look at me, and blushed before accepting my friend request.

Opening the bag, I saw two items. One of them is a bow. The other one is an armour. I stole a quick look at the armour.

【Wilderness Golden Armour】(Bronze level equipment)



Defence : 50

Strength : +5

Required Level : 14

Unidentified

.....

I was pleasantly surprised. This armour is still unidentified, but whatever I can see is already superb. Once I identify it, it would be a super awesome item! It is also a bronze level item, and is much better than a steel level item. Could this be the first <>Spirit of Grief<> bronze level item?

[To be continued...]

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# Chapter 12

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## Golden King Bow

Translator/Editor: Mr Voltaire

[TLN: We'll be translating 鑑定 as 'Appraise', as opposed to 'Identify', and 'Guild' instead of 'Clan']

I sent the Wilderness Golden Armour's stats as an attachment to them, and immediately, Dragon Soul and Punisher's eyes revealed their enthusiasm and excitement. After all, this Bronze grade piece of armour was extremely valuable towards Fencers and Berserkers!

Dragon Soul asked, "Shu Sheng, was it just this one piece of equipment"

I answered, "There's also a bow!"

Dragon Soul smiled, "Can we also see the bow? Oh, and what class are you going to choose?"

I thought for a while, and replied, "If this bow is good, I'll choose Archer. If it's not that great, I'll be a Berserker!"

Dragon Soul and Punisher looked at each other, and said, "God, please give him a super OP bow!"

I couldn't help laughing. These two fellows were quite interesting. If I really did become an Archer, then I wouldn't be able to use the armour. Thus, they would be able to justifiably ask me to sell the Golden Wilderness Armour to them...

Thus, I immediately took out the longbow. It was incredibly beautiful, and the

bowstring emitted a faint glow.

The longbow's name and stats were revealed—

[Golden King Bow] (Bronze level equipment)

Attack: 55-70

Strength: +7

Required level: 14

Unappraised

.....

I was so shocked that I stood there for a while. It was another Bronze grade equipment! Plus, in its unappraised state, it already had an awesome upper limit of 70 attack, so what would it be like after being appraised?

I quickly sent the stats of the longbow to each person. Immediately, Dragon Soul and Ghost Fire all began to salivate. Even Purple Rhyme's eyes began to glow with admiration.

Punisher grabbed my hands, and said, "Brother, let's return to town to appraise it! We'll find someone to appraise the value of this armour, and whatever price you give, we'll try to meet it!"

I couldn't help but be shocked. This fellow, Punisher, was very straightforward. In comparison, Dragon Soul was much more reserved!

In actuality, even Dragon Soul was furiously gulping down his saliva, but he just controlled himself better.

As such, after a few rays of lights flashed out, us five people arrived at Novice Village and went to the Appraisal Shop. We saw an elderly Appraiser fiddling with some antiques in a very happy and content manner.

Pa!

I put the Golden Wilderness Armour onto the table, and said, "Please appraise

it!"

The Appraiser turned his head and looked at the armour, and said, "Please pay the fee of 10 silver!"

Goddamn, it costed a whole 10 silver to appraise!

It was very painful for me to take out 10 silver.

The Appraiser put his hand on the armour, and immediately, the armour released a glow of light. The armour's stats were displayed in front of everyone—

[Golden Wilderness Armour] (Bronze level equipment-Armour)

Defence: 85

Strength: +10

Constitution: +5

Required level: 14

.....

It had actually increased by 35 points of Defence, and has 10 points of Strength and 5 points of Constitution!

Everyone in the room stood in dumbfounded silence.

After a long time, Dragon Soul spoke, "This armour is damn awesome. Shu Sheng, what about the bow?"

I put the longbow on the table, and the Appraiser's nonchalant attitude immediately vanished, and instead inspected the longbow closely and carefully. He gave a surprised 'oh' and said, "Who would have thought you would have such a treasure, the appraisal fee for this longbow is 10 gold!"

I was speechless, "Boss! You sure you've got it right? That Golden Wilderness Armour was only 10 silver, so why is this Golden King Bow 10 gold?"

The Appraiser lazily looked at me, and said, "If you don't want to pay, you can

leave!"

At this moment, Dragon Soul pulled my arm, and said, "Don't be silly! The more expensive the appraisal fee, the more valuable the equipment is! If you don't have enough money, I'll pay for the appraisal fee!"

I immediately realised that if this guy paid the appraisal fee, he would definitely want a large discount when buying the Golden Wilderness Armour. I definitely didn't want to suffer such a loss!

As such, I painfully took out 10 gold coins and handed it to the Appraiser. Arghhhh out of the 12 gold coins I had picked up from killing the boss, I had used 10 here! At least, with the remaining 2, I could meet the company's expectations.

The Appraiser took a deep breath, and lightly put his hand on the Golden King Bow. A glow of light was released, and its stats were revealed–

[Golden King bow] (Silver level equipment)

Attack: 80-125

Strength: +15

Agility: +12

Bonus Effect: Guaranteed Hit; attacks cannot be dodged by targets

Required level: 15

.....

Once again, all of the people present were completely speechless! After being appraised, this Golden King Bow had been upgraded to a Silver equipment!

After five minutes, Dragon Soul finally spoke, "Overpowered!"

I was also extremely shocked. This 10 gold was definitely worth it! A LV15

longbow with 125 Attack, that was simply ridiculous! Moreover, because it was a Silver grade equipment, it could be used all the way to LV30! Or even LV50!

Most importantly, this longbow had a bonus effect, which was guaranteed hit! It was impossible to miss targets, or for targets to dodge. This incredible bonus effect gave me a bold idea: normal Archers would only put half of their stats into Strength, and the remaining half into Agility. This way, they could ensure that they had both attack power and accuracy. After all, for Archers, Agility determined accuracy, or ‘Hit’, and Strength determined attack power. Thus, since this Golden King Bow guaranteed me to hit my targets, I could put all of my stats into Strength. This was incredible!

Thinking to here, I couldn’t help but laugh loudly! A newbie expert was about to be born!

On the side, Dragon Soul and Punisher looked at me strangely and said, “Did Shu Sheng go crazy from happiness?”

I stopped laughing, and immediately put the Golden King Bow into my inventory. I was only LV12 at the moment, and couldn’t use it yet, so I had to keep it safe. I turned to Dragon Soul, “If the Sword Flame Clan wants the Golden Wilderness Armour, state a price!”

Dragon Soul and Punisher looked at each other and smiled, and Dragon Soul spoke, “Right now, we don’t have too much. All we can give you is 20 gold. This is our entire savings...”

I looked at him and smiled, “C’mom, we all know that this Bronze level Armour is worth much more than that to you...”

Dragon Soul looked very awkward. At this moment, Purple Rhyme said something quietly, and pushed something into Dragon Soul’s hands. Brimming with confidence, Dragon Soul walked over and said, “Shu Sheng, have a look at this. Can we buy the Golden Wilderness Armour for 20 gold coins, plus this?”

After he spoke, Dragon Soul opened a Trade Screen with me. A ray of light flashed, and a book appeared—

.....

[Armour Piercing Arrow]: Ignores 50% of Defence, attack power is determined by level.

.....

I was slightly shocked. Everyone knew that in ‘Spirit of Grief’, one had to find skill books by themselves. NPCs could only teach the most basic of skills. Against Berserkers or Knights with high Defence, this skill was amazing!

As such, I added the Golden Wilderness Armour onto the Trade Screen, and Dragon Soul added 20 gold. The exchange had been completed!

Dragon Soul directly gave the armour to Punisher. Punisher did not waste any words, and gratefully accepted it. However, because his level wasn’t high enough, he could only put it away for now.

I also put my Golden King Bow into my inventory. Dragon Soul faced me and said, “Shu Sheng, have you ever thought about joining a guild? Although our Sword Flame guild doesn’t have many people, we’re all good brothers. If you want to join, we’ll welcome you with open arms!”

I was slightly moved by Dragon Soul’s actions. He was willing to directly just give the Golden Wilderness Armour to Punisher-indeed, they were all good brothers. Following such a boss, I would definitely be able to live a good life. However, I also realised, perhaps Ling Xue would also want to form her own guild. I simply owed Ling Xue too much, so if I didn’t do my best for her, I’d die of shame!

Thus, I said to Dragon Soul, “At the moment, I don’t really want to join a guild. Please give me some time to think about it-when I’ve made my decision, I’ll let you know immediately!”

Dragon Soul nodded, and gave a loud laugh, “Sure! We’re going to go and farm, see you later!”

The four core members of Sword Flame left Novice Village. Punisher was

incredibly happy, and Ghost Fire was also happy for him. As for Purple Rhyme, she looked back at me, and gave a slight smile, and also left. For a Priest to level up to LV10 so quickly, it seemed that she definitely farmed with Dragon Soul and the others.

Thinking to here, I walked by myself towards the Class Change Hall!

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# Chapter 13

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## Apprentice Archer

Translator/Editor: Mr Voltaire

In the Class Change Hall, the Class Change Instructors were all spaced out from each other. Of course, in such a small village, they didn't receive very good treatment. They were all fairly shabbily dressed—the Berserker, Knight and Fencer instructors wore nothing on their torsos, revealing their strong muscles. The Magician and Priest Instructors were wearing coarse cloaks, and the Assassin Instructor stood in the darkness, observing everything. The Archer Instructor was a beautiful female NPC, who wore simple leather armour. Her bewitching curves could be seen despite of the leather armour.

I was extremely delighted, and walked in front of the Archer Instructor without any hesitation, stating, “I want to change class!”

The NPC looked at me and replied, “The mighty Godking of Light bestowed upon me power. Heroic warrior, from now on, you are part of the Archer’s Association!”

Woosh~!

My title had been changed to ‘Apprentice Archer’!

“Ding~!”

System announcement: Congratulations, you are the fifth Apprentice Archer in the Novice Village. Go and talk to your Instructor, she will give teach you skills specific to your class!

“Ding~!”

System announcement: Your stats growth have changed—

[Strength]: 6 stars

[Constitution]: 5 stars

[Agility]: 10 stars

[Intelligence]: 6 stars

The number of stars represented the potential increase in stats. For example, if one had 10 points in Strength, and their Strength had a star value of 10, then that bonus 10 points in Strength would increase their attack power by 10-10. However, if their Strength had a star value of 6, it would only increase their attack power by 6-6. This showed the difference between different classes. Thus, the only ones who had a star value of 10 for Strength were those who primarily focused on Strength and attack power, the Berserkers and Fencers!

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I was a bit shocked-I thought that I had levelled up very quickly, but apparently there were four people who had become Archers before me. That meant in this entire Novice Village, there should be around 50 people who have already changed classes, and this was only one of the hundred or so Novice Villages in China's South-East region...

Goddamn, I was probably in the ten thousands in the rankings!

I walked in front of the beautiful Archer Instructor, and opened her chat bar. Indeed, there was a learning skills section.

After selecting it, I saw three skills flashing in front of my eyes. The first was a Basic Archery skill; the other two were Fire Arrow and Ice Arrow—

[Basic Archery]: Passive Skill, increases Archers' Hit and Damage.

[Fire Arrow]: Uses flames to shoot a flame element arrow.

[Ice Arrow]: Uses ice energy to shoot an ice element arrow.

Seeing the learning fee, I was shocked out of my mind!

Learning the Basic Archery skill cost 50 silver coins, whereas learning the Fire Arrow and Ice Arrow skills cost 5 gold coins each!

The game had only been released for 8 hours-normally it would be impossible

to afford these skills at this point of the game! However, luckily I sold that Bronze level armour, and earnt 20 gold from that. It seemed like the time to use the gold that I had earnt was now!

As such, I learnt the three skills without any hesitation. Despite spending so much money, I still had 12 gold coins left!

I also decided to learn my Armour Piercing Arrow as well. Immediately, four skills appeared on my Skills Page. All four of the skills were still at their primary stage.

[Basic Archery Skills] (primary): Proficiency: 0/10,000, no MP cost.

[Fire Arrow] (primary): Proficiency: 0/10,000, costs 5 MP.

[Ice Arrow] (primary): Proficiency: 0/10,000, costs 5MP.

[Armour Piercing Arrow] (primary): Proficiency: 0/10,000, costs 10MP.

.....

I took a look at my stats. Right now, I only had 120MP, which meant that I couldn't use my skills many times. In order to quickly raise the proficiency of my skills, it looked like I had to buy a few blue potions.

I decided to also have a look at the Rankings. A list of different Rankings appeared before me. These included: Level Rankings, Equipment Rankings, Fame Rankings, etc.

I first had a look at the Level Rankings. To my shock, I found that the highest level was LV16, and even the tenth ranked player was LV15! Moreover, in the top 10 players worldwide, 4 spots were taken by Chinese players. Looking at the China Player Rankings, the top player was a female Magician called 'Qing Feng Lan Yue'! [TLN: 清风 (Qing Feng) means a cool breeze, and 揽月 (Lan Yue) means embracing or seizing the moon]

The hell, a girl levelling up so quickly, that was incredible!

I grumbled bitterly, and opened the Equipment Rankings. To my surprise, my

Golden King Bow was at the top, and was far superior to the second ranked Bronze Great Sword! Heh, that's right, Silver grade equipment were far superior to Bronze grade equipment. Moreover, the Golden King Bow's stats were simply awesome! Normal LV15 Bronze bows would be considered good if they could give 50 attack power, but the Golden King Bow not only added 125 points of attack damage, but also had a breathtaking passive skill!

I slightly smiled. This wasn't too bad-I took the top spot in one Ranking, which was pretty good. Although my level wasn't as high as that female Magician called 'Qing Feng Lan Yue', if we were to fight, I was sure that there was a 90% chance of me instantly killing her!

I looked at my EXP Bar. My LV12 EXP bar was already 92% full, so I wasn't that far away. Besides, I hadn't even handed in my [Clear the Outpost] quest yet. After spending 6 hours killing slimes and gathering 100 slime medals, the rewards should be pretty good!

When I reached the Village Elder's hut, I saw that he was continuously looking out. After seeing me, his face burst into a smile-a smile that looked like a split orange peel—

"Young man, you actually did it. Those evil slimes were very dangerous; you've helped our village a lot. Here, this is your reward!"

"Ding~!"

System Announcement: Congratulations, you have completed the quest [Clear the Outpost]. You have gained 50,000 EXP, 5 gold coins, Fame+250 and received an item [Windrunner]!

With two swishing sounds, the generous amount of EXP from the quest allowed me to directly level up to LV14. Taking a look at my EXP bar, there was only another 98 points until I could reach LV15!

I was extremely delighted, and opened my bag to take a look at the equipment

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[Windrunner] (Bronze level equipment-Leather Boots)

Defence: 24

Agility: +4

Constitution: +2

Required level: 10

.....

It was a pair of leather boots-just what I needed. Because I had changed to the Archer class, I could no longer equip my Wilderness Boots. As such, both the Wilderness Boots and the Shiny War Axe were both sitting in my inventory. After all, Archers could only equip leather armour, as well as use bows and daggers for weapons.

Now, I had to fight barehanded for a while. Luckily, killing a few monsters would give me that final bit of EXP to level up to LV15. After equipping the Golden King Bow, I'd get a tremendous surge in power!

I gave a laugh, and walked to the Village Square and shouted out, "Steel grade boots, hurry over if you want to make an offer!"

In just a moment, the entire Square erupted into chaos. Countless people were yelling things like, "There's someone selling Steel grade equipment? Damn! Hurry over and have a look-even if we can't buy it, we can at least have a look at it!"

In just a few minutes, I had been surrounded by an ocean of people. However, there weren't many who could offer me decent prices. In the end, a little warrior bought the Wilderness Boots for 5 gold coins. After all, it was only a Steel grade equipment-in just a few days, it would become a common good, so I definitely had to get rid of it quickly!

I thought I might as well also sell the Shiny War Axe, so I also sold that for 10 gold coins. Because the demand for weapons was much greater than that for armour and other equipment, the price was much higher.

Thus, I now had 27 gold coins. I once again went to the potion shop and directly filled half of my inventory with low level red and blue potions. In total, I spent less than 7 gold coins in total. I then went to the weapons shop and bought a few quivers of steel arrows. These arrows all increased my attack power by 1, so the large amount I bought should probably last me a long time.

I looked at the players around me. Most of them were hurriedly trying to level up, only occasionally coming back to the village to restock on potions or to repair equipment.

As such, I hid my name, and took out the Golden King Bow. Of course, although it had ‘Golden’ in its name, it was still a Silver grade equipment. If someone found a Gold grade piece of equipment at this stage of the game, then most other players would probably rage-quit...

Most areas around the village had already been occupied by players who were farming. As such, I decided to explore around the area to the west of the village, past the Slime territory, in the deep parts of the forest. Perhaps I could find something good there!

After taking care of some weak monsters on the way, a golden ray of light appeared, and I levelled up to LV15. I immediately equipped the Golden King Bow. In a flash of light, it appeared in my hands, surrounded by a golden glow. It was simply beautiful!

The light of the Golden King Bow attracted the attention of many players around me. Following my principles of keeping a low profile, I turned off the appearance effects of the longbow. Immediately the golden light disappeared, and became a dark coloured longbow. It now looked like an unremarkable common good!

After equipping the Golden King Bow and the Windrunner, I took a big shock after looking at my Stats Page.

Easily Angered Bookworm

Level: 15

HP: 440

Attack Power: 125-180

Defence: 51

Fame: 551

Luck: 0

.....

My Attack Power was incredibly astonishing!

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# Chapter 14

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## Shallow Swamp

Translator/Editor: Mr Voltaire

Looking at the time, I found that it was already 4am. In an hour, the sun would begin to rise.

However, I had no intention at all of sleeping. Gripping the Silver grade Golden King Bow, my heart surged with excitement. This was currently the most powerful weapon in Spirit of Grief. With this in my hands, no one would be able to beat the newbie me.

However, I knew that it was purely luck that I had found that peak level boss in the Novice Village. In two or three days, most people would also have Silver grade equipment. As such, I needed to use this precious advantage I had as much as I could! If I could level up, I would be able to fight even stronger monsters, and receive even better equipment!

The Money Exchange System would only be opened after the game had been released for two weeks. Thus, the wealth the players accumulated in the game could not be transferred into the real world, and vice versa. However, after half a month, one could link their bank account to their game account, and large corporations would begin to pour in money to boost their standing in the game. As for me, all I wanted was to get a few good equipment, kill a few baddies, and get it on with a few beauties-thus, I could use my money from the game to exchange for some RMB in the real world!

Of course, in order to do this, I would have to have a high level.

When I reached the place where I had killed the Golden Slime King half an hour

ago, it was already filled with players. There were tens of parties waiting there-once a boss died, another would respawn after a while.

I secretly laughed. Half a month ago, when I read through the Spirit of Grief manual, it stated that it took approximately one whole week for a boss to respawn. Instead of working hard and levelling up, these guys were going to sit around waiting a whole week for the Golden Slime King to respawn!

I did not waste any time there, and moved on. After walking for another 15 minutes, I noticed that my surroundings seemed to get a bit brighter. It was probably because dawn had broken in the real world. Some diurnal [TLN: opposite of nocturnal] animals began to come out. These included LV14 Goshawks, LV15 Short Haired Wild Pigs, LV16 Bloodthirsty Sheep. However, I did not pay attention to them as well-my goal was the LV20 Blue Eyed Lizards! [TLN: For those of you who read SW, I died laughing here].

A few streams passed through the forest from the west. There were not any people here, and in the reeds by the streams, there were many Blue Eyed Lizards lying there. Their armoured bodies and blue eyes made them seem quite intimidating.

My level was just high enough to see their stats. As such, I immediately had a look—

[Blue Eyed Lizard] (normal monster)

Level: 20

Attack Power: 45-70

Defence: 60

HP: 1200

Attack Type: Attacks have a chance to paralyse their target

.....

Holy crap! With those stats, it would probably take as much effort to kill as that Golden Slime King from earlier!

I was surprised to see that not only did it have fairly high Attack Power, but its Defence was just ridiculous. If it was not for my Golden King Bow, I doubted that it would be possible for me to get through its 60 Defence!

As such, I took out an arrow, and placed it on the bowstring. I drew back the bowstring with as much strength as I could muster, and with a swish, the arrow flew out!

“Pft!”

The arrow hit the Blue Eyed Lizard squarely in the end. Instantly, it painfully took two steps back, and a damage figure of “245” rose up over its head.

Seeing this damage number, I felt very astonished. However, in this moment, the Blue Eyed Lizard had already begun to counterattack. It opened its mouth, and its disgusting tongue flew out, and hit my chest. Just that one attack took away 87 HP!

“624 ! ”

I retreated a few steps, and once again shot out an arrow. This time, I used the ‘Ice Arrow’ skill!

“Bang!”

A blue light exploded on the Blue Eyed Lizard’s head. Immediately, its whole body had been covered in a layer of frost, and its Movement Speed greatly decreased!

I looked through the skills I had, and suddenly remembered the Armour Piercing Arrow! It could ignore 50% of the target’s Defence, so wouldn’t it be greatly effective against the Blue Eyed Lizard?

As such, I quickly retreated, and once again laid an arrow on the bowstring. As it shot out, the Armour Piercing Arrow turned into a white light that shot into the Blue Eyed Lizard’s head, and a damage figure rose up!

This number completely blew my mind. I hurriedly rubbed my eyes, and confirmed that the damage figure was really 624. With one attack, I had wiped out half of this LV20 monster’s HP!

Immediately, I felt incredibly overjoyed. However, just to dispel all doubts, I

once again shot out an Armour Piercing Arrow. As the white light once again pierced into its head, a damage figure of 678 appeared!

The Blue Eyed Lizard gave a pitiful cry as it died, and dropped a few silver coins.

Killing a monster 5 levels above me gave me quite a bit of EXP—just this one Blue Eyed Lizard gave me 550 EXP. Moreover, the greater the level difference, the greater chance of items appearing. However, apart from the 5 silver coins that it had dropped, there was not anything else.

This was understandable. The drop rate of good equipment from normal monsters was quite low. After killing slimes for 5 hours, I had found one piece of Silver equipment. As such, it was important to remember not to expect too much when farming off normal monsters.

Looking around me, I found that this small map was called the ‘Shallow Swamp’. Within the Shallow Swamp there were many, many Blue Eyed Lizards, which ranged from LV20 to LV25. I could probably level up all the way to LV20 here. Not too far away, I spotted an NPC lying on the ground, weakly groaning.

I immediately ran over, and found that it was a middle aged soldier wearing a set of full body armour. He was lying on the grass, his legs covered in blood. It looked as if he had been ambushed by something.

The NPC looked at me, and seemed to be pleasantly surprised, “Young warrior, it’s great that you’re here. Can you help me with something?”

“Ding~!”

System Announcement: Accept the Captain’s request?

I immediately accepted, and another system announcement rang out—

“Ding~!”

System Announcement: You have accepted the quest [Collect Lizard Skin] (Difficulty: 80)

Quest Details: Kill the Blue Eyed Lizards nearby, and collect 50 Lizard Skins. Deliver them to Captain Aaron, and he will make you a set of leather armour!

.....

I couldn't help but smile-there wasn't even a furnace here, and yet this injured Captain was going to make a set of leather armour for me. The designer of this game's head must have problems!

The difficulty of this quest was once again higher than the previous ones. It was now 80 points. It must be because the system recognised my level, LV15, challenging a group of LV20 Blue Eyed Lizards was suicidal. However, the system didn't take into account the treasure I had in my hands, the Golden King Bow, which made it more than just easy!

With this quest, levelling up was going to be even easier.

I took a quick look at the Level Rankings-I was number 4087 in China. However, the 1000<sup>th</sup> ranked player was only LV16!

Alright, let's see if I can get to LV18 before I sleep, and enter China's top 1000!

I turned towards a Blue Eyed Lizard and shot an Ice Arrow. After being slowed, it slowly crawled towards me. While it did this, it was finished off by two of my Armour Piercing Arrows. In fact, if I was lucky and got a critical hit, just one Armour Piercing Arrow would be able to insta-kill the LV20 Blue Eyed Lizard!

While gaining extravagant amounts of EXP, time quickly flowed away. When I took another look at the time, it was already 5am. The speed at which I killed the Blue Eyed Lizards was incredible-I killed about 3-5 Blue Eyed Lizards per minute, and in just one hour, I had levelled up twice to LV17, as well as collected 50 Lizard Skins!

Seeing that it was still early in the morning, and work started at 9am, I decided that I would go to sleep soon. 3 hours should be sufficient; even if it wasn't enough, I could take a small nap at work, then continue to game at home. As they say, youth is wealth-we can afford it!

As such, I went to hand in my quest!

In the distance, the Captain who was lying on the ground seemed to be in a better condition. After receiving the 50 Lizard Skins, he cheerfully laughed, “Brave warrior, your courage has conquered this swamp. Please wait, I will make a set of leather armour for you!”

The Captain bustled about, and who knew how he did it, but after a prismatic light shone, a shiny leather armour appeared in his hands!

“Ding~!”

System Announcement: Congratulations, you have completed the quest [Collect Lizard Skins]. You have gained 25,000 EXP, 5 gold coins, Fame+150 and received an item [Pristine Luminous Leather Amour]!

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# Chapter 15

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## The Beauty, Ling Yue

Translator/Editor: Mr Voltaire

“Woosh!”

With a wooshing sound, a golden glow appeared above my head. I had once again levelled up, and had finally reached LV18!

I looked through the Level Rankings again. Having reached LV18, I was now number 83 in all of China! The number 1 position still belonged to the female Magician called “Qing Feng Lan Yue”, who was already LV20. The other top rankings all belonged to males.

Haha, after entering the top 100, today’s mission had been completed!

It appeared that the equipment that the quest had given me did not have to be appraised, so I took a look at its stats—

[Pristine Luminous Leather Armour] (Bronze level equipment-Leather Armour)

Defence: 36

Agility: +5

Constitution: +4

Required level: 18

.....

Heheh! A Bronze level equipment with fairly high Defence was exactly what I needed!

I immediately equipped the Pristine Luminous Leather Armour happily. Now, my Defence had been raised to 82, which was higher than even most Knights of

the current stage of the game. Now, the Blue Eyed Lizards couldn't even break through my Defence-of course, it had to be noted that Defence was their strongest attribute, not Attack Power.

I had a look at my inventory. I originally had 18 gold coins, but after killing so many Blue Eyed Lizards and completing the quest, I now had 32 gold coins. It looked like I would have much more than enough to fulfil the company's expectations, so the rest I could use in real life when the Money Exchange System opened.

After walking to the safe zone at the edge of the forest, I logged out.

After taking off the game helmet, I found that my body was covered in sweat. I immediately went to take a cold shower. For breakfast, I stuffed some pieces of bread into my mouth and washed it all down with a cup of warm water. I set my alarm to 8am, then crashed onto my bed!

.....

After getting some nice rest, the irritating sound of my alarm clock woke me up.

The pain of being woken up from some sweet and necessary sleep was terrible. However, I didn't keep sleeping-I definitely did not want to be late on my second day of the job!

As such, I quickly got up and brushed my teeth. I hurriedly rushed out, and made my way to the office. On the streets there were many girls walking with their friends to school. There were lolis everywhere!

By the time I got to my work, it was nearly 9am. I swiped my card, and sat on the sofa next to my desk, then took out a piece of bread which I finished in just three bites.

At this time, the four beauties also appeared.

Bing Cha [TLN: translated as 'Ice Tea' by the original translator] carried a small bag, and sat on another sofa. She looked at me and smiled, "Shu Sheng, how'd you go last night? What level are you now?"

I smiled back, “Doing pretty well, I’ve already changed class.”

“Oh? What class did you choose?”

“Archer!”

The beautiful Bing Cha seemed quite delighted, “En, great. That way, we have two Archers—you and Silent Rain are both Archers, I’m a Fencer and Summer, hm? Summer, what’s your class?” [TLN: Silent Rain was translated as ‘Rainfall’ by original translator]

Summer wore a loose dress, and sat next to me. Half of her legs dangled onto my body, and she laughed, “I’m a Summoner—I can already summon LV10 Wolf Cubs!”

I was slightly shocked. Summer’s dress revealed quite a bit of cleavage, but she did not seem to mind at all. She rested one of her snowy white hands on my shoulder, and smilingly said, “Big brother Shu Sheng, do you want me to help you level up? If you do, you can give me your qq number!”

My ears instantly went red, and I couldn’t utter a single word. Damn, since I was young, I had never been able to get so close with a beauty before!

Seeing my awkward reaction, Bing Cha ill-humouredly laughed, “Summer, you should behave yourself. Otherwise, you might scare Shu Sheng away. We’re all going to be spending a lot of time together, so what’s the rush?”

I was stunned, “What do you guys mean? It sounds like I’m like a little chicken that you’re raising to eat one day...”

Summer smirked, “No way! Our Snow Moon office is a very united group—if anyone bullies you, I’ll be there to protect you!”

I was speechless. A little Summoner actually had such confidence.

At this moment, Zi Yue [TLN: translated as Purple Moon by original translator] walked in with a few cups of tea, “Come, come, come, I’m sure we all stayed up all night. Let’s drink some Chrysanthemum tea to revive ourselves!”

I nodded, and moved my body to the left, allowing Summer to properly sit on the sofa. Although her breasts weren’t that large, but she had wide hips and a

large behind!

As such, I asked, “Beautiful Summer, do you have a boyfriend?”

Summer smiled, “I used to have one, but the bastard kept asking to ‘deepen our relationship’ by pulling me to the bedroom. For my pure body, I kicked him away!”

I was quite shocked, this woman was not simple at all!

Bing Cha brought over a bottle of ice tea and took a drink, then asked, “How have you guys been going with the gold coin requirement? Have you all collected 2 gold coins yet?”

Silent Rain nodded her head, “En, I got exactly 2 gold coins last night!”

Zi Yue instead replied, “I only got 10 silver coins...”

Summer was even worse off, “2 silver coins; I didn’t even have enough to buy potions!”

Bing Cha had nothing to say, and instead asked me, “What about you, Shu Sheng?”

I replied, “I found a few friends and worked together, and got just enough.”

Bing Cha immediately began to exclaim, “You girls, look at Shu Sheng and how good his attitude is. After not coming in for a few days, you’ve all become so useless!”

I laughed, and turned on my office computer. I looked at the Rankings online—the female Magician Qing Feng Lan Yue was still number 1 on the Level Rankings, being LV22. As for me, my Golden King Bow was still the king of all the other equipment on the Equipment Ranking.

Bing Cha and the others all came up and looked at my screen. Bing Cha exclaimed in disbelief, “This Qing Feng Lan Yue is so incredible. When I woke up this morning, I looked at her records and she had only just logged off. I wonder what sort of woman she is...”

Silent Rain replied, “Levels don’t matter that much. After all, she could ask others to help her level up. If she had a group of people getting monsters down to half HP for her to finish off, this wouldn’t be too difficult. The thing is, did you

guys see that Silver grade bow on the Equipment Rankings? It's so incredible. Who would have such luck to find a Silver grade equipment already!? Even big sister I don't even have a Bronze grade equipment~~!"

Zi Yue retorted, "You're not that bad off. I farmed for an entire night, but I only have a Steel axe. If I had a better equipment, I probably would have been able to get up to LV15."

At this moment, Summer said, "When I came in just then, Director Ling's office seemed to be locked-I don't think she has come yet!"

I could not help but be shocked, "Who's Director Ling?"

Summer gave an ambiguous smile, "Director ling, heheh, is a super beauty. After meeting her, you have to control yourself!"

Could it be Ling Xue? It probably was-otherwise, how else would she have the power to get me into the Development Decision? Plus, if she didn't have a high position, how else would she be able to afford a BMW?

Summer said, "Shu Sheng, I don't know what you should be doing yet, so just surf the web for now. When Director Ling is here, she'll give you some tasks ."

I nodded, "Sure!"

As such, I peacefully looked through Spirit of Grief's website and forum. Near noon, Summer walked over and patted my shoulder, "Shu Sheng, the Director wants to see you!"

I was slightly nervous, and walked towards the Director's office.

"Thud thud!" I knocked on the door.

"Come in."

From inside came a woman's gentle voice, which sounded very similar to Ling Xue's!

I opened the door and entered. Behind the large office desk was a beautiful figure. She was writing something on her notebook with a look of concentration. Her long hair fell to her chest, and below her the white collars of her shirt, two proud peaks emerged, which could cause any man to fall into a trance.

After ten or so seconds, she finally raised her head. As I saw her face, I was stunned—that beautiful face, delicate skin, high nose, full and red lips, and beautiful eyes—who else could it be, except Ling Xue?

She looked at me, and calmly asked, “You’re Ding Shu Sheng?”

I was surprised—after not having seen me for a day, did she not recognise me anymore?

As such, I answered, “Ling Xue, I didn’t think you worked here...”

Who would have thought the beautiful woman coldly replied, “I’m not Ling Xue, look carefully! I’m Ling Yue, the ‘savage grandma’ who you talked to over the phone!” [TLN: see Chapter 2]

“What? Ling Yue!?”

I was completely speechless... So that day, when I answered Ling Xue’s phone... that was her older sister, Ling Yue? Goddamn, so they were twins!

Ling Yue gave me a cold look, and continued to speak, “Hmph! If it wasn’t for Ling Xue continuously asking me to accept you into the Development Division, I definitely wouldn’t let you in—you actually dared to call me a savage grandma, hmph!”

My heart was beating furiously. Goddamn, if I was to work under Ling Yue, wouldn’t I have to take a lot of crap from her? Those proverbs were completely right—a single wrong step results in eternal regret!

“Because of you, Ling Xue is still levelling up right now. As for you, hmph, go and work seriously at the game. And also, don’t you dare to bully those girls—they’re all treasures that the company paid a fortune to recruit!”

“En, sure!”

Ling Yue nodded, “You can go now, I’m gonna nap for a bit longer...”

“Hm? Nap for a bit longer?”

Ling Yue suddenly came back to her senses, “Get out, get out!”

I quickly retreated and closed the door. Just before the door closed, I could already see Ling Yue’s head on the table.

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# Chapter 16

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## Savage Wolf Ridge

Translator/Editor: Mr Voltaire

In the afternoon, I had been lying on the table until it was nearly time to go home when Summer adamantly pulled me to the plaza to walk around. According to Summer, walking around at the plaza was refreshing.

Bing Cha was drinking tea, Silent Rain was surfing the web, and Zi Yue was reading magazines. None of them wanted to go out into the sun.

As such, it was only me who was accompanying Summer. What was strange was that Summer's skin was incredibly white, and did not look at all like she spent much time in the sun.

After walking past a few stalls, one of the middle-aged women at a stall jokingly said to us, "Ooh! Miss Summer's got a new boyfriend? Do you want to buy a video recorder; you can record while you 'play'!"

Summer embarrassedly pulled my arm, "No way, I definitely wouldn't record such \*\* things!" [TLN: that's what it says in the raws]

A few middle-aged women all began to laugh, making her even more embarrassed.

After an entire day, I didn't see Ling Xue even once. After going home from work, I found that I actually felt a bit disappointed. Forget it, Ling Yue said that Ling Xue was still levelling up; how would she have time to come.

I politely declined Summer's invitation to help me level up. I felt that if I trained with her, it would be me helping her level up instead. At this stage of the game,

little Summoners didn't have any powerful or useful summons at all.

From what Bing Cha had said, at least for now, we would all be playing in our own homes. However, after not too long, the company would buy a house for employee players to have a nice environment to play in. All of us from the Snow Moon office would be living together, which would help us to bond as a team.

As such, I was very much looking forward to the future of the Snow Moon office.

But for now, I would go home and train by myself.

I appeared at the boundary of the forest. Inside my inventory, I still had quite a few red potions and blue potions left. However, having reached LV18, these Blue Eyed Lizards were no longer as appealing to me. Thus, I decided to go and find a new place to train. Plus, there were now many teams here killing Blue Eyed Lizards. Seeing that I was by myself, they all looked at me strangely-perhaps they thought that it was weird that I had been able to survive by myself.

Looking at the Level Rankings, I had dropped from number 83 in China to 547. It seemed that a lot of people had given up on rest, and decided to level for the entire day!

The number 1 player, the female Magician Qing Feng Lan Yue was not online, but was already LV23.

Right now, I was LV18. Getting to LV23 wouldn't be too hard. After all, with the best weapon in Spirit of Grief, killing monsters and gaining EXP became incredibly easy.

And so, I immediately began to head west. On the map, towards the west there was a city called Twilight City, which was a level 2 city. Of course, one could only upgrade their class at Twilight City, and the Adventurer's Inn there could provide many services for players.

Right now, only 7 people were above LV20. Those people were probably all

within that level 2 city!

Thinking to there, I left the Shallow Swamp, and after walking for about 10 minutes, I arrived at a dark and windy place. The map revealed its name: Savage Wolf Ridge!

So this was the Savage Wolf Ridge of the legends?

Half a month ago, it had been advertised that within Spirit of Grief, the Savage Wolf Ridge was like heaven for low level players-one could obtain many rewards there!

As the wind blew, the howls of Savage Wolves also entered my ears.

Far away, a black shadow was pacing around underneath a tree. It was evidently a gigantic wolf, with a pair of red eyes that caused one to shudder. Saliva leaked out of its mouth, and sharp sword-like bones stuck out of its back.

[Ravenous Sword Wolf] (Enhanced Monster)

Level: ???

Attack Power: ???

Defence: ???

HP: ???

.....

The numerous question marks told me that my level was much too low to see the Ravenous Sword Wolf's stats!

Without any hesitation, I shot out an Ice Arrow. As it was hit, a layer of frost appeared on the Sword Wolf's body. This attack caused 300 damage, but it was evident that its HP was much greater than that of the Blue Eyed Lizards'. The 300 damage only took off about 10% of its HP bar.

I immediately changed to an Armour Piercing Arrow. As the Armour Piercing

Arrow shot into its head, its HP was reduced by another 500. Evidently, its Defence was not very high, and the Armour Piercing Arrow did not have much of an effect.

“1105 ! ”

As such, I switched to my other active skill, Fire Arrow!

Consuming 5MP, a tongue of flame burst forth on the head of the arrow, and as it shot out, it became a streak of fire which landed on the Sword Wolf’s head.

“1105!”

It was a four digit damage figure!

I was greatly surprised, and saw that the flames seemed to have lit the Sword Wolf’s fur on fire. No wonder that one arrow had done so much damage-it seemed that the Sword Wolf was weak towards fire!

I was very pleased-luckily I had learned all of the skills from the Archer Instructor. Otherwise, it would take over two minutes to kill the Sword Wolf. However, with this Fire Arrow, I would be able to kill it easily.

While I was celebrating, the Sword Wolf had already come close, and it slashed at me. I felt a massive clawing pain at my chest, and saw that I had lost 248 HP!

My expression sunk, and I hurriedly swallowed a red potion. The Sword Wolf once again charged at me, and mercilessly bit down on my leg, causing 240 damage!

In just a few seconds, my HP had nearly been completely depleted!

I desperately retreated a few steps and shot an Ice Arrow, slowing the Sword Wolf down, and ran as fast as I could. When I reached the range limit, I turned around, and shot a Fire Arrow.

“2240!”

A fatal blow!

With the Fire Arrow being elementally effective against the Sword Wolf, and also being a critical hit, the Sword Wolf was instantly killed!

The Sword Wolf's large body fell to the ground as it gave a pitiful cry. A few things clattered to the ground—it was many silver coins!

Who knew what level this Sword Wolf was—it had nearly killed me twice within a few seconds. Luckily I had the Golden King Bow, as well as the critical at the last moment, which finished it off.

I walked over, and found that the Sword Wolf had dropped Red Flame Hand Guards, as well as ten or so silver coins. I picked all of them up and looked at the Hand Guard's stats—

[Red Flame Hand Guards] (Bronze level equipment—Leather Armour)

Defence: 36

Agility: +5

Required level: 25

(Unappraised)

.....

I was incredibly shocked—this Red Flame Hand Guards was a LV25 piece of equipment. Applying normal logic, the equipment that normal monsters dropped was usually lower level than them. Didn't that mean the Sword Wolf that I had just killed was far above LV25?

Having killed a monster that was nearly 10 levels above me, my EXP bar noticeably grew!

I placed the Red Flame Hand Guards into my inventory, then consumed another potion. After a while, my HP returned to max HP. I now knew that I needed to carefully sequence my skills—first using an Ice Arrow, then a Fire Arrow. This way, I could probably kill them before they even reached me, and would not take much time!

I tried out this tactic on another Sword Wolf, and found that it was indeed quite effective. I had only expended tens of MP, but had easily killed a Sword Wolf, and again received ten or so silver coins!

As I joyfully collected my silver coins, I looked up, and saw that in the distance, there was a small tent with smoke rising above it.

There was a quest!

I quickly ran over, and saw two hunter NPCs around a stove.

I began to talk to them, and one of the hunters told me, “There is no peace in the Savage Wolf Ridge. Those wicked Sword Wolves often go to villages to attack villagers. Half a month ago, three brilliant hunters came to Savage Wolf Ridge, but we have not heard from them for a long time. Rumour says that a ferocious King Sword Wolf has appeared. Young man, do you have the courage to fight the King Sword Wolf?”

“Ding~!”

System Announcement: Would you like to accept the quest?

Quests were something that you could not have too many of. On the forum, many players were lamenting that there simply were not enough quests to go around. Seeing this quest, I was overjoyed and immediately accepted it.

“Ding~!”

System Announcement: You have accepted the quest [King Sword Wolf]!  
(Difficulty: 387)

Quest Details: Enter into the Savage Wolf Ridge, and collect 100 Wolf Fur by killing the Sword Wolves there. Then, enter the depths of the Savage Wolf Ridge and kill the King Sword Wolf, and give its head to the hunter Vigo!

Looking at the quest details, I was completely dumbfounded. The difficulty was

a terrifying 387!

It was rumoured that the numerical difficulty of a quest represented the chance that it would be failed by the player in their current condition: a difficulty of 10 meant that the player, at his or her current level, would have a 10% chance of failing the quest. A difficulty of 100 meant that the player, at his or her current level, would have a 100% chance of failing the quest. Of course, this was just an explanation provided by players, but it was a known fact that the higher the numerical difficulty, the more difficult the quest would be to complete!

This quest I had undoubtedly told me that it was practically impossible for me to kill the King Sword Wolf.

However, looking at the Golden King Bow in my hand, I knew that it was the biggest variable!

After thinking about it, I could not help but be incredibly thrilled and elated. After the Golden Slime King, I finally had another chance to fight another boss!

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# Chapter 17

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## King Sword Wolf

Translator/Editor: Mr Voltaire

Within the forest, the howls of wolves echoed out continuously, causing one to shudder.

Underneath a tree, many Sword Wolves with savage, glowing red eyes surveyed their surroundings.

I didn't dare to go any closer-after all, I was by myself. If I was too careless, and ended up dying, I could drop my Golden King Bow, and my full-strength Archer build would become completely useless!

A blue light shot out, and the Ice Arrow I released buried itself into one of the Sword Wolf's neck. Immediately, I then shot out a Fire Arrow, causing the Sword Wolf to take a few steps back. By the time it began to charge at me, it had been hit by a second Ice Arrow, and right before it reached me, another Fire Arrow found its head. The ferocious Sword Wolf crashed to the ground, and not only did it drop ten or so silver coins, but also a piece of Wolf Fur the size of my palm. I picked it up and examined it-it was indeed the Wolf Fur necessary for the quest.

I killed another few Sword Wolves, but none of them dropped any Wolf Fur. Only after killing the seventh Sword Wolf did I find another piece of Wolf Fur. It seemed that the drop rate for this quest item was not very high. However, the abundant amount of EXP and silver coins made me feel overjoyed.

After about an hour, a golden light flashed-I had finally reached LV19. At the same time, I had gained 14 Sword Wolf Fur. It seemed that collecting 100 pieces of Wolf Fur would take at least seven to eight hours.

In the blink of an eye, another two hours had passed. A Sword Wolf charged

towards me, and as a fiery red light shot out, it too collapsed on the ground.

A piece of equipment fell to the ground, and a ‘Ding’ noise also sounded out—

System Announcement: Congratulations, you have reached LV20!

System Announcement: Congratulations, you have awakened a talent—[Low Level Healing]!

.....

I was slightly shocked, and remembered that when players reached LV20, they would receive a talent. There were many different types of talents, but their effects were all mediocre.

My talent was Low level Healing—it was a skill that could not be upgraded, and could heal me for 100HP for 10MP every time!

I gave a wry smile, “Time to pretend to be a Priest to get in with the Fencer beauties!”

I then remembered the piece of equipment that the Sword Wolf had dropped.

It was a piece of leather armour, glowing with a slightly red light. I picked it up and looked at it—

[Red Flame Breastplate] (Bronze level equipment-Leather Armour)

Defence: 36

Agility: +8

Required level: 25

Equipment Set Attributes: ???

(Unappraised)

.....

I rubbed my eyes to make sure that I wasn’t seeing things. This Red Flame

Breastplate was part of a set! No wonder the system said that the Savage Wolf Ridge was similar to heaven! Not only could one kill monsters for large amounts of EXP, but they could even find equipment sets-this was a golden training area!

I decided to put the Red Flame Breastplate into my inventory. I'd appraise it after I went back to a town or village. I wondered what effects would appear when I collected an entire set.

My Healing talent seemed pretty good-it only had a two second cast time, and could restore 100HP. This way, I wouldn't have to rely on red potions anymore-after all, swapping 10MP for 100HP was definitely worth it. Moreover, the Ice Arrow and Fire Arrows' Proficiencies were unceasingly increasing. I estimated that by the time I completed this quest, both of these skills would be upgraded to Intermediate skills!

After levelling up to LV20, I wholeheartedly devoted myself to killing Sword Wolves. My EXP bar continuously grew, and by 2am, I had collected all of the Wolf Fur, as well as found a Red Flame Helmet and Red Flame Boots. If I could find leg guards, I would have a complete set. Although I was now only LV22, this was enough to once again push me into the top 100. I was now the twelfth in China-if I could keep this going, I could stand at the top of China!

After levelling to LV22, I could finally see the levels of the Sword Wolves. The Sword Wolves that I had been farming off were LV27 monsters, and had 150 Attack Power. No wonder they did so much damage to me!

By 3am, the entire Savage Wolf Ridge had been cleared out by me. What was shocking was that after 6 hours, the monsters still had not respawned yet!

Heading towards the depths of the Savage Wolf Ridge, I could only find two Sword Wolves. After clearing them with my Fire Arrows, with clatter, the final piece of the Red Flame equipment set, the leg guards, appeared!

I was incredibly elated, and put the Red Flame Leg Guards into my inventory. I took a deep breath, for I had now arrived in the depths of the Savage Wolf Ridge!

At the bottom of a bleak white cliff, there were five wolves standing there. Four of them looked very ordinary. However, the one in the centre looked extremely savage, and had an entire body of red fur. It was two metres high, and its sharp teeth glistened with its saliva.

The wolf in the middle was definitely the King Sword Wolf!

I deduced that the four wolves around the King Sword Wolf were the King's Guards. Their levels were probably the same as the King's, as their levels were hidden from me.

I knew that engaging the five of them in battle would be dangerous, but walking away from a free boss was simply stupid!

The question I then had to consider was whether I should kill the guards first, or take down the King first. If I could see all of their stats, this would make the choice easier, but as my level was too low, I couldn't use their stats to devise a strategy.

Thinking to here, I thought, *screw it, might as well just shoot then think.*

"Swish!"

A Fire Arrow shot into one of the King's Guard's neck!

"2456!"

A devastating strike!

However, I couldn't feel happy at all. This was because although I had cleared out more than 2,000HP, its HP had only been reduced by a bit! Its total HP was probably more than 50,000!

I drew in a breath of cold air. At this moment, that King's Guard had already leapt towards me, and its sharp claws dug into my shoulder.

Ignoring the pain, I was pleasantly shocked to find that the King's Guard had only taken out about 35HP-it had barely broken through my Defence!

Could it be that the King's Guard's Attack Power did not even reach 100?

This seemed quite logical-after all, they were pretty much meat-shields for the King. Having large amounts of HP, but low Attack Power, was quite normal for a guard.

Suddenly, a red blur appeared within my field of vision, and I felt a sharp pain in my chest. My whole body was knocked flying back by the attack!

“Ding~!”

Battle Announcement: You have received damage from the King Sword Wolf, and have lost 443HP!

I was extremely shaken, and looked at my remaining 2HP!

I only had 480HP in total, and after consecutively being hit by the King's Guard and the King Sword Wolf, I only had a measly 2 HP left!

“Crash!”

I was knocked flying by the King Sword Wolf's attack to the base of the cliff. Behind me there was only hard rocks, whereas the four King's Guards had already charged up to me. I was stuck between a rock and a hard place!

I quickly swallowed a 300HP red potion, then used my Healing talent, and pulled my HP back up.

At this moment, the four King's Guards all leapt towards me, and began to attack!

“Scratchscratchscratchscratch!”

Under their furious attacks, my HP once again dropped below 200HP. However, relying on drinking potions and my Healing talent, I could still recover my HP.

I suddenly realised a very good piece of news!

The King Sword Wolf looked at me savagely, but did not approach. This was because I was surrounded by the four King's Guards, and thus it could not attack me.

“Damn! Here’s my chance!”

I immediately shot a Fire Arrow towards the King Sword Wolf!

The Fire Arrow struck the head of the King Sword Wolf, and a damage figure arose.

“894!”

Although the damage figure was not too high, it was still decent. This was a boss over LV27-to be able to deal this much damage to such a boss, most players would be completely speechless. After all, between LV15 and LV20, most players would already be overjoyed if their Attack Power was over 100!

The King Sword Wolf furiously howled, but it was a pity that it could not do anything about it. It was evident that the system had not given the King’s Guards much intelligence-they could not receive orders from the King, neither did they think of moving aside to make way for the King.

I continuously drank potions to maintain my HP, and occasionally used my Healing talent. I felt super lucky-if it wasn’t for my Healing talent, I definitely wouldn’t be able to stay alive!

Although the King Sword Wolf had incredible Attack Power, it did not have much HP. After 10 minutes, my Fire Arrows had already reduced its HP by half!

Another 10 minutes passed in the blink of an eye. As the final Fire Arrow shot into its head, it gave a pathetic cry and collapsed, and dropped many items!

“Ding~!”

System Announcement: Congratulations, you have killed the boss King Sword Wolf. You have received 120,000EXP and Fame+450!

.....

“Ayy, equipment!”

Seeing the sparkling equipment on the ground, my greatest desire was to go over and pick them up. However, I remembered that I was still surrounded by the four King’s Guards.

Goddamn, these annoying guys!

I felt incredibly furious towards these wolves that I had felt very grateful to just a while ago. After continuously alternating between firing Fire Arrows, drinking red potions and using my Healing talent, they all met the same outcome as the King Sword Wolf!

Without a second thought, I ran towards the King Sword Wolf's body, and collected the three pieces of equipment into my inventory.

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# Chapter 18

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## Red Flame Equipment Set

Translator/Editor: Mr Voltaire

[TLN: I'll be translating equipment as "Bronze *grade* equipment" from now on, instead of level-it makes more sense that way]

While tanking the damage from the three King's Guards, I quickly drank a potion while picking up the 25 gold coins that the King Sword Wolf had dropped, as well as the King Sword Wolf's bloody head.

I didn't have time to look at the stats of the equipment; that would come after getting rid of the King's Guards in ten or so minutes!

After a while, the Savage Wolf Ridge lapsed into silence. All of the monsters had been slain, and had been turned into my EXP and gold. Of course, there was also the five pieces of the Red Flame equipment set, as well as the three pieces of equipment from the King Sword Wolf. In just one night, I had gained 8 pieces of equipment, and they were all definitely superb!

The EXP from the King Sword Wolf caused me to level up to LV23, and was close to LV24. After handing in the quest, I was sure that the EXP I would gain would push me all the way up to LV25!

I quickly ran back to where the hunters were, and took out the one hundred pieces of Wolf Fur, as well as the King Sword Wolf's head.

Immediately, the hunter's eyes widened, and after a short while he finally spoke, "Brave young man, you actually completed such a difficult quest. Here, this is your reward!"

"Ding~!"

System Announcement: Congratulations, you have completed the quest [King Sword Wolf], you have received 180,000EXP, 10 gold coins and Fame+400!

.....

The EXP and gold rewards were quite good for a quest with a difficulty level of 387. However, the only downside was that there was no equipment reward. Despite this, I was not too disappointed-after all, it was said that the chance for a quest to give equipment rewards was only about 25%.

Just as I had expected, the abundant amount of EXP caused me to level up to LV25. I once again opened the Level Rankings-I was now number 6 in China. The number one position still belonged to the female Magician Qing Feng Lan Yue, and the other four were all players with names starting with “Battle Soul”!

I thought for a while, this “Battle Soul” name sounded very familiar. I remembered that they were a group that had recently been formed, and had gathered many experts. They practically dominated every single virtual game. I never thought that they would enter Spirit of Grief as well.

It seemed that the future would hold many challenges and battles. Just like the Sword Flame and Fated powers, I was bound to have battles with Battle Soul. After all, players were all aiming for the top, and the only way to talk was with one’s fists!

I had a look at the time, and found that it was already 4am. It was still 1 hr away from when I had planned to log off, so I took out a teleport scroll that I had bought for 1 gold coin and returned to Novice Village. (Only after LV30 can one set their teleport scroll to take them to a corresponding main city).

A white light flashed, and I appeared in the Novice Village. Most players were still wearing their shabby equipment; most still had the tattered clothing that gave only 0-1 Defence. To the current me, it felt like I had walked into a world of beggars.

I walked to the Appraisal Shop, and put the five pieces of the Red Flame equipment set on the table. The Appraiser, upon looking at them, seemed slightly shocked, and then said in a low voice, “Total Appraisal fee is 15 gold coins!”

It seemed that each piece required 3 gold coins, so they were probably just Bronze grade equipment. Indeed, it was not that easy for Silver grade equipment to drop!

After paying 15 gold coins, the Appraiser passed his hand over the equipment, and the five pieces of equipment shone with a faint light—

[Red Flame Breastplate] (Bronze grade equipment-Leather)

Defence: 55

Agility: +12

Constitution: +8

Required Level: 25

Equipment set effect: Long distance Attack Power + 15%, Defence+5%, +12% chance to dodge an opponent’s Physical Attack!

[Red Flame Leg Guard] (Bronze grade equipment-Leather)

Defence: 45

Agility: +9

Constitution: +6

Required level: 25

[Red Flame Boots] (Bronze grade equipment-Leather)

Defence: 42

Agility: +9

Constitution: +6

Required level: 25

[Red Flame Leather Hat] (Bronze grade equipment-Leather)

Defence: 45

Agility: +8

Constitution: +4

Required level: 25

[Red Flame Handguard] (Bronze grade equipment-Leather)

Defence: 42

Agility: +9

Constitution: +6

Required level: 25

.....

Although these five pieces of equipment were only Bronze grade, but their value came from their levels. The effects they gave were also awesome!

I took off the Pristine Luminous Leather Armour and Windrunner Boots, and when all five pieces of the Red Flame equipment set were equipped, my body felt incredibly warm, as well as very light. The equipment set also gave off a unique glow, through which one could tell that this set of armour was definitely not ordinary.

“Ding~!”

System Announcement: Equipment set effects have been activated: your long distance Attack Power+15%, Defence+5%, +12% chance of dodging an opponent's Physical Attacks!

Once again, I was overjoyed. After I upgraded my skills, I would definitely be undefeatable, hahaha!

I had a look at my stats—

Easily Angered Bookworm (Apprentice Archer)

Level: 25

HP: 880

Attack Power: 175-230

Defence: 205

Fame: 1041

Luck: 0

.....

I put all of my points from levelling up into Strength, which gave me 27 points of Attack Power. Right now, my Defence had reached a terrifying level of 205 points. My HP had risen to 650, but with the 26 Constitution from the equipment set, my overall HP became 880!

I laughed out loud, I was now a High Defence Tank Archer!!

I suddenly thought of the equipment that had dropped from the King Sword Wolf, and took them out. The first was a pair of armoured boots. I put them on the table, and the Appraiser gave it a casual glance and said, “Appraisal fee, 80 silver coins.”

I immediately knew that this was probably a trash piece of equipment...

The boots flashed, and its stats were displayed-

[Wolf Tail Battle Boots] (Steel grade equipment)

Defence: 72

Strength: +4

Required level: 27

.....

Goddamn, turns out it was indeed a trash piece of equipment. However, it wasn't entirely useless-Warrior classes had very high Defence, and just a Steel grade piece of armour greatly exceeded the Defence from any of the equipment from the Bronze grade Red Flame equipment set. If a LV27 Berserker used Bronze grade equipment, I might have to use an Armour Piercing Arrow to break through their Defence!

The second item that the King Sword Wolf had dropped was a book, so it didn't need to be appraised-

[Red Flames Sea] (Skill Book): Summons a sea of flames that causes damage to a set area.

Requirements: LV25 Magician

Once again, I was very pleased. Although there weren't many magicians who could use this book right now, after half a week, most Magicians would be around LV25. At that time, there would be a great demand for skill books!

The third piece of equipment that the King Sword Wolf had dropped was a radiant dagger. Just from looking at it, my instincts told me that it might be a Silver grade equipment!

When I put the dagger on the table, the Appraiser's attitude completely changed, and said, "This... this is a treasure! Appraisal fee is 10 gold coins!"

I was ecstatic and immediately paid the appraisal fee. The Appraiser's hand passed over it, and a brilliant light shone out from the dagger.

[Lightwave Dagger] (Silver grade equipment)

Attack Power: 60-95

Agility: +15

Constitution: +8

Required level: 25

.....

The dagger had impressive Attack Power, but definitely could not be compared to the Golden King Bow. From this, I determined that the Golden King Bow's stats definitely surpassed the Silver grade, and was even bordering on the Gold grade!

Archers could equip two types of weapons-one was bows, and the other was daggers. As such, I equipped the Lightwave Dagger, and my HP rose by 40 points, bringing me to a total of 920 HP!

There were no other players in the Appraisal Shop, so I turned on the visual effects of the Red Flame equipment set, Golden King Bow and the Lightwave Dagger. Immediately, the room burst into light. It was simply dazzling!

I was very satisfied, and turned off the visual effects. I decided that I would continue to keep a low profile. Once I started fighting other people, I would be unstoppable!

I went outside, and stored the Red Flames Sea skill book into my inventory. I cleared my throat, and sold the Pristine Luminous Leather Armour and Windrunner Boots, which got me another 10 gold coins. Now, I had 76 gold coins in my inventory! At this stage of the game, I was incredibly rich!

I restocked on potions, and found that I didn't have anything to do. Going back to the Savage Wolf Ridge was not feasible-I wasn't sure if the monsters there had respawned yet, and just going there would take half an hour or so.

I shook my head and laughed, "Never mind, I'll just sleep. Health is wealth!"

Just as I was about to log off, a "dii~" sound rang out-it was a message from a friend!

I opened it, and saw that it was from Purple Rhyme. Immediately, Purple Rhyme's figure appeared in my mind. What did such a beautiful Priest want from me?

The message said, "Are you busy? Can you help me with something?"

Since I had nothing to do, I replied, "I'm not busy."

After a few seconds, another message from Purple Rhyme appeared, "Then I'll

meet you at the village entrance!"

I walked towards the village entrance, and saw a beautiful figure appear there. It was Purple Rhyme!

She was wearing a slightly glowing Magician's robe. Judging from its appearance, it was probably a Bronze grade equipment. The Sword Flame guild was quite impressive-they had acquired a Bronze grade Magician's robe in such a short period of time.

Purple Rhyme was looking around, probably searching for me.

As I was wearing the Red Flame equipment set, she did not recognise me at all, until I walked up to her and smilingly said, "Hai~!"

Immediately, Purple Rhyme turned and looked at me, her eyes full of shock and surprise. Only after a long pause did she smile and say, "You've gotten together an equipment set so quickly, wow..."

I humbly smiled, "Nah, it's nothing. That's right, did you want help with a quest?"

"En, it's a quest. I need to kill a LV20 boss, but Dragon Soul and Punisher have already logged off, so I thought of you. I won't waste too much of your time, and I'll give you 5 gold coins for your time..." Purple Rhyme earnestly said.

I couldn't help but laugh, "Don't worry about it, you consider me as a friend right? It's just killing a boss-I'll treat it as travelling with a beautiful girl for free, so I'll be happy as long as you don't charge me money!"

My words caused Purple Rhyme to laugh, which caused her to look incredibly beautiful and gentle.

.....

At the same time, at another corner of the Novice Village, a beautiful Fencer finished off] a dog-headed man by herself.

A golden light appeared above her head, and she wiped off the sweat on her

forehead as she sweetly smiled, “I’ve finally reached LV20. I wonder if that dummy has reached LV20 yet...”

Under the moonlight, the young lady’s snow white skin gleamed, making her seem especially enchanting and beautiful.

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# Chapter 19

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## Porcupine Boss

Translator/Editor: Mr Voltaire

Purple Rhyme's quest was to go to a mountain cave to the east of the Novice Village and kill a Porcupine Boss. When I asked her what the difficulty was, she smiled and replied, "Its difficulty is 150. So, do you have the guts?"

I couldn't help but smile, "Of course I do!"

I don't know why, but Purple Rhyme's cheeks suddenly reddened, and she said, "Then let's quickly go over. There were many people who accepted this quest. If we don't get there first, we'll have to wait 10 hours for the boss to respawn!"

I nodded, and ran with her towards the east.

Perhaps it was because it was too boring to just run, but Purple Rhyme asked me, "Shu Sheng, what do you do in Su Zhou?"

I thought for a while and answered, "I do business planning at a digital company, but I'm not exactly sure what I'm supposed to do specifically... what about you?"

Purple Rhyme raised her eyebrows, and smiled, "Pretty much the same sort of thing. I work at an advertising company, but I haven't been going to work lately... I've been farming at night and sleeping during the day~~"

I felt quite envious of her and said, "That's such a good life. I farm at night, and go to work during the day. I can only take short naps at work..."

Purple Rhyme could not help but smile, "If you don't like what you do, then come to our company! Oh, never mind, a professional player like you can live happily through the Money Exchange System. You probably don't need to come to a place like that~"

I laughed, “Professional player? I’ve just had some good luck. I couldn’t compare to your Sword Flame guild... oh, by the way, who thought of the name Sword Flame? It sounds like ‘Cheap Things’.” [TLN: Sword Flame = Jian Huo; Cheap Things = Jian Huo]

“Boss Dragon Soul came up with that name; I had nothing to do with it. However, boss Dragon Soul is a good person. He’s very righteous and loyal, and will go to any lengths for his friends. Punisher, that guy, doesn’t really use his brain-luckily boss Dragon Soul is always there to watch over him.”

“What about Ghost Fire? What’s he like?” I suddenly thought of the Necromancer.

Purple Rhyme gave a slight smile, “I’ve never met Ghost Fire in person, but in-game he’s always very quiet, and looks very cold. However, I know that he’s one of those cold on the outside, but warm on the inside people. In Eternal Moon, because there was some enmity between Punisher and the guildmaster of a guild, Ghost Fire went and charged into the hundred-man guild, and killed the guildmaster~”

“Not bad, not bad, it seems that this Sword Flame guild is quite good!”

Purple Rhyme looked at me, and asked, “Do you want to join us?”

At this moment, I thought that any normal man would not be able to resist this sort of temptation. Purple Rhyme’s beauty eyes seemed to draw me in like a magnet.

However, I had reasons to refuse.

After half a minute, I gave a faint smile, “If that person abandons me, then I’ll join Sword Flame. However, before then, I want to be with her, and help her with anything.”

Purple Rhyme seemed slightly shocked and asked, “What sort of person is this? Is she your girlfriend?”

This caused me to laugh out loud, “Of course not. Why would such a beauty settle for a poor guy like me. I owe her a lot, because if it wasn’t for her, I wouldn’t even be able to enter this game!”

“Ahhh, I see!” Purple Rhyme smiled, “I won’t force you then, but just remember that Sword Flame will always welcome you.”

I nodded, “Thanks!”

By this time, we had reached a small cave within the depths of the forest. There practically weren’t any players around.

Purple Rhyme was a Priest, so naturally, she couldn’t take the risk of checking out the cave first. As such, I led the way, and added Purple Rhyme into my party.

It was quite dark in the cave, and it felt very uncomfortable walking on the soggy, wet dirt.

Purple Rhyme gripped a green Steel grade staff in her hand, and cautiously looked around her.

“Patter...”

A few bats were woken up by us, and charged out towards the exit.

“Ah!”

Purple Rhyme gave a cry of fear. I stood in front of her, and slashed with my Lightwave Dagger to chase away the bats.

Luckily, it seemed that the bats didn’t have any attack power, and seemed to be part of the environment, rather than actual monsters.

I looked ahead of me, and saw that there seemed to be a round, red shadow. Purple Rhyme saw it as well, and asked, “Shu Sheng, do you think that’s the Porcupine Boss?”

Purple Rhyme was LV22, whereas I was LV25, so naturally I was able to see further than her. Indeed, it was the Porcupine Boss sleeping soundly!

I nodded my head, “Yes, that’s the Porcupine Boss.”

[Porcupine Boss] (Steel grade Boss)

Level: 20

Attack Power: 165-200

Defence: 55

HP: 40,000

Attack Type: Vampiric, has 10% chance to instantly kill its target.

.....

Being 5 levels above the Boss, I was able to see all of its stats. After telling Purple Rhyme of its stats, she opened her mouth in shock, “What should we do? It has such high Attack Power, but we don’t have any meat shields! If I had known about this earlier, I would have asked Punisher to stay back to help. Going off to a sauna... sigh...”

I cheerfully replied, “Don’t worry, I’ve got this. All you need to do is focus on healing.”

Purple Rhyme looked at me in surprise, “Are you sure you can do this?”

“Of course I’m sure.” I patted my chest confidently.

I told Purple Rhyme to retreat to outside the cave entrance. I would bait the Porcupine Boss outside, where it was much more spacious. After all, Purple Rhyme and I were both ranged professions, so it would be more advantageous for us to fight outside.

Seeing that Purple Rhyme had already reached the outside of the cave, I shot out an Ice Arrow from my Golden King Bow.

“Bam!”

As the blue light hit the Porcupine Boss, it lost 245 HP! Heh, with my 230 Attack Power, the Porcupine Boss’ measly 55 Defence was nothing!

“Grunt, grunt...”

The Porcupine Boss abruptly woke up, grunted twice, and charged out!

I didn't hesitate, and immediately ran out. When I reached her, I saw that Purple Rhyme's face was fully of worry and distress. However, when she saw me, a slight smile appeared on her face, and she quickly ran back to keep the distance between us. It would be silly for two ranged players to fight a boss standing together.

The Porcupine Boss was furious, and charged towards me with its fangs out!

“Bang~!”

A thumping sound rang out as the Porcupine Boss hit my shoulder. I immediately felt the pain, and a “124” damage figure rose up above my head.

Not bad, it didn't break through my Defence much!

I drew my Golden King Bow, and used a Fire Arrow this time. It did not disappoint, and dropped the Porcupine Boss' HP by 467!

Purple Rhyme looked extremely shocked, and asked, “Shu Sheng, what's your Attack Power? Even for Ghost Fire, the maximum he can deal against monsters with 55 Defence is 200 damage...”

I laughed, and answered in a secretive tone, “Well, let's just say my attack is higher than Ghost Fire's!”

Purple Rhyme smiled, and did not ask any further. Instead, she sent a ‘Weakening’ onto the Porcupine Boss!

“Ding~!”

Battle Announcement: The Porcupine Boss has been weakened by the ‘Weakening Status’, Attack Power and Defence have decreased by 5%!

.....

I was slightly surprised, and could not help but exclaim, “That’s quite a good ‘Weakening’!”

Purple Rhyme replied, “This is actually one of the more inferior ones. After all, it’s only a primary ability. After changing profession again, if I can increase it to Master level, then its effect will be even more impressive~!”

While we were talking, the Porcupine Boss decided to stop attacking me, and charged towards Purple Rhyme!

Purple Rhyme did not panic, and casually healed me to full HP again. Of course, I wouldn’t let a Priest tank the damage from a boss, and once again sent out a Fire Arrow!

The Porcupine Boss ran back and forth between Purple Rhyme and myself. However, it wasn’t intelligent enough to decide to just focus on one target, and did not end up hitting either one of us.

After a few minutes, with a “Bang!”, my Fire Arrow crit, and struck a fatal blow, dealing 884 HP to the Porcupine Boss!

The Porcupine Boss gave a weak cry, and fell to the ground, dropping some gold coins and two pieces of equipment!

Purple Rhyme quickly went up to it, and collected its head into her inventory. She frowned-after all, the game’s graphics were very realistic, and the Porcupine Boss’ head was very gory and bloody.

She also collected the gold and equipment and walked up to me, and opened up a Trade Screen. She put a pair of Magician boots, an armoured helmet and 12 gold coins in there, and said, “This is all it dropped; if you’re willing, please accept this as your reward for helping me!”

I looked at the two pieces of equipment, which both seemed to be Bronze grade, and thus not much use to me. Moreover, I wasn’t lacking gold either.

As such, I closed the Trade Screen and said, “Keep the Magician boots for yourself; it’s pointless for me to take something you need. Plus, I can’t equip the helmet, so just give it to Punisher or Dragon Soul. As for the gold coins, those are the only things I want...”

Purple Rhyme gawked at me, and couldn’t help but smile, “You...”

In the end, she opened up the Trade Screen again and transferred 12 gold to me. The reason I accepted the 12 gold coins was because if I didn’t accept anything, she would probably feel bad about it. After all, although the 12 gold coins were worth far less than the two Bronze grade equipment, it would at least put Purple Rhyme at ease.

Having received the 12 gold coins, I now had 88 gold coins, an astronomical figure!

Purple Rhyme contentedly put the two pieces of equipment into her inventory, and smiled, “Well, I’m going to go and hand in the quest. You should go to sleep, Shu Sheng, don’t tire yourself out too much.”

Purple Rhyme’s voice was gentle and caring, and I felt a bit moved hearing this. It had been quite a long time since I had heard such a caring tone.

However, this pleasant feeling was immediately dispelled when we heard a voice from the forest behind us, “Eh? Boss! Someone already killed the Porcupine Boss, goddamit!”

Another voice sounded out, “Damn! Who dares to steal my quest boss; go and kill them!”

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# Chapter 20

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## Showing Off For the First Time!

Translator/Editor: Mr Voltaire

A few people walked out from the forest. Two were Berserkers, two were Assassins and three were Magicians!

Looking over, I was quite surprised-it was my ‘old friends’, people from the Fated Clan. The person walking in front of the rest of the group was the Fated Clan’s head, Fated Madman!

Fated Madman immediately recognised Purple Rhyme and myself, and his face darkened, “So enemies are destined to butt heads, eh? This is quite a small world!”

Purple Rhyme coldly replied, “Cut the crap! There was no enmity originally between Fated and Sword Flame, but you guys started to cause trouble for us!”

Fated Madman harrumphed, “Sword Flame? Hmph, yesterday, we weren’t prepared, but today I want to see how you two will escape from us!”

Fated Madman turned to the three Magicians by his side and began to give orders, “First get rid of the Priest, and then I’ll get rid of the boy myself!”

I looked over, and saw that Fated Madman’s equipment were all pretty decent. He had an axe that was rippling with light, which was probably a Bronze grade piece of equipment. He was also wearing four pieces of armour, all of which had bonus stats. The lowest grade was probably Steel. The three Magicians had decent equipment as well, and from the looks of them, they seemed to be mid-high level players!

Purple Rhyme tightly gripped her staff and said in a low voice, “Shu Sheng, our

odds don't look too good this time. Try to escape while I stall for time!"

I couldn't help but smile, "No need, if someone should stay, that should be me. If I ran off by myself, how could I face Dragon Soul and Punisher?"

Purple Rhyme helplessly smiled, and nodded, "Then we'll die together..."

I laughed, "There's no need for that!"

"Eh?" Purple Rhyme seemed shocked, as if she wanted to ask something.

I had already started moving. The Lightwave Dagger was already in my hands as I charged forwards, stabbing towards Fated Madman's chest.

Fated Madman was also shocked by my actions. He never expected that I would make the first move, and so suddenly as well. As such, he immediately gave the order, "Kill him immediately!"

However, the moment the dagger was about to reach him, my body suddenly stopped, and I was unable to attack him.

Woosh!

A fireball had flown over and crashed into my chest!

The three Magicians had pretty high Attack, and every fireball dealt about 150 HP. However, with my monstrous 920 HP, how could I be killed so easily?

I quickly gulped down a red potion, and changed the direction I was running-it was obvious who my target was.

Fated Madman must have thought that I was an Assassin. He spun around with his axe while furiously yelling, "Earth-Splitting Slash!"

Boom~!

A fiery light flew over, and a damage figure of 45 rose up above my head.

I couldn't help but laugh. After all, the Red Flame Equipment Set was a set of LV25 Bronze grade equipment. Even a Berserker like Fated Madman couldn't get past my Defence!

Fated Madman's mouth hung open in shock. I immediately equipped my Golden King Bow, and shot out a Fire Arrow. It streaked through the air, and exploded into a LV21 Magician's chest!

Bang~!

The Fire Arrow passed through the Magician's chest, and insta-killed him!

Fated Madman was completely shocked at this point, but before he had a chance to recover, I had already shot out an Ice Arrow. A LV20 Magician watched as the Ice Arrow sunk into his chest, but was unable to dodge at all! That was two Magicians down!

However, I did not stop moving. Before all of the Magicians were dead, Purple Rhyme would not be safe.

I was now already in front of the last Magician. I once again equipped the Lightwave Dagger, and slashed it across the last Magician's neck. The Magician's blood spurted out of his neck as he also collapsed onto the ground.

In just a few seconds, the entire situation had been turned on its head. The three Fated Magicians were now dead on the ground, and there were just two Berserkers and two Assassins now!

After killing the three Magicians, I charged over to Fated Madman while laughing, "Fated Madman, you brought a bunch of trash to deal with me? Heheh, if you want to kill me, you're going to have to do your best!"

I unlocked the visual effects of all of my equipment in full view. Instantly, the forest was filled with golden light from my Golden King Bow and ruby light from my Red Flame Equipment Set!

All of a sudden, Fated Madman and his group were speechless. This was so for Purple Rhyme as well. Her mouth was open, but she was unable to make a sound.

A few seconds later, Fated Madman furiously yelled out, "Fuck! You think you're so good just because you have good equipment? I'm going to kill you

today!"

The Fated group began to charge towards me as well. Fated Madman once again struck out with his axe, and Fated Bloodthirster's blood-red dagger also struck towards me from behind!

Their goal was obvious-using the heavy-armoured Berserker to tie me up from the front, while the dextrous Assassin would strike at me from behind!

I quickly retreated, and shot out with my Golden King Bow. An Ice Arrow struck one of the Assassins in the chest, and before he had realised what was happening, he was on his way back to the revival point!

Just then when we started fighting, I purposely tried to attract all of their firepower onto myself. This was because if they attacked first, I could retaliate all I wanted in the name of self-defence, and would not have to worry about the consequences.

"1240 ! "

I was once again hit in the chest by Fated Madman's attack, and lost 100 HP. However, I was not worried at all. The only ones that had a chance of killing me were the Magicians, who were now all respawning in the Novice Village.

Swish!

A Fire Arrow found its mark on Fated Bloodthirster's chest, and with a stunned look on his face, he was also sent back to the Novice Village. Assassins were simply too squishy. Even if he had much, much more HP, he would still have been insta-killed.

Now, there were only two Berserkers left!

Fated Madman was furious. He yelled out, "Fourth bro! Charge with me together!"

The "Fourth bro" nodded, and charged over with his axe as well. However, before he was even close, my Armour Piercing Arrow shot through the air and pierced into his chest!

"1240!"

The terrifying number caused Fated Madman to despair. Even a Berserker, with their incredibly high Defence, had been dealt with over 1,000 damage by this Archer. What was the point of having such high Defence if they would still be killed in one hit?

The Fourth bro also turned into a streak of white light and returned to the revival point. Fated Madman was completely furious at this point, and glared at me as he yelled, “Bastard, I’ll make you regret making me angry!”

Woosh!

I replied with another Amour Piercing Arrow. Immediately Fated Madman lost 1069 HP, and was only left with a sliver of health!

I was just about to finish him off when Purple Rhyme laughed, “Let me do it!”

She swept out with her hands, and a purple Smite landed on Fated Madman’s head!

Soon after, Fated Madman died as a result of the Priest’s Smite skill, and looked extremely humiliated.

Clunk!

A helmet landed on the ground, and I couldn’t help but laugh. Fated Madman had actually dropped his helmet!

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# Chapter 21

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## An Outstanding Person

Translator/Editor: Mr Voltaire

I picked up Fated Madman's helmet and looked at its stats-

[Green Helmet] (Bronze grade equipment)

Defence: 52

Strength: +6

Constitution: +1

Required level: 14

.....

The helmet's Defence was passable, and along with its other stats, it was a decent piece of equipment. I couldn't help but say, "Green helmet, green..."

Purple Rhyme couldn't help but laugh, "You were going to say 'green hat' weren't you? Do you think I'd be embarrassed by something like that? I'll have you know that this big sister has seen quite a bit; I'm not a little flower!" [TLN: if you say a man is wearing a 'green hat', it means that he's been cheated on by his wife]

I laughed. Indeed, Purple Rhyme's mature air made her seem like someone who had seen quite a bit. Although she was not incredibly beautiful, I still could not help but take a liking to her.

Looking at the Green Helmet, I said to her, "After we get back, I'll sell this and we'll split the money half-half."

"No way, you did all of the work, so the equipment should go to you!"

Purple Rhyme smiled, and said, "It's getting late, so you should get some rest. Don't tire yourself out!"

I nodded, and returned to the Novice Village. Standing in the centre of the Novice Village, I began to yell out, and soon, I had sold the Green Helmet for 40 gold. Now, most players' levels were not too low anymore, so it was not too hard to earn money. The helmet was pretty much useless to me, so I decided that I might as well just sell it.

Before logging off, I had a look at the Level Rankings. Once again, I had dropped out of the top 10, and was ranked 17<sup>th</sup> with my LV25. First place was still the female Magician Qing Feng Lan Yue, at LV28.

*This Qing Feng Lan Yue, what sort of girl was she?*

I wondered to myself, then logged off.

....

I slept until about 8am, and seeing that I was going to be late, I skipped breakfast and ran the whole way to the company.

It turned out that the beauties Zi Yue and Summer were both late, and both arrived around 11am with their eyes red. When Silent Rain asked them why they were so late, Zi Yue replied, "Summer and I are both in the same Novice Village. Last night I helped her level up to LV19-I feel like dying!"

Summer indignantly replied, "Having a beautiful lady to train with you, and you took advantage of me so many times-and yet you seem so unwilling!"

Zi Yue glared at her, "Please, you're talking as if I'm not a woman..."

Not too long after they started talking, Bing Cha walked in, "Everyone, come with me. It's time for our meeting!"

"Meeting?" I asked in a puzzled voice.

Bing Cha nodded and smiled, "Mhmm, it's about business matters in the

game. General Manager Wang will be leading the meeting!"

I smiled-this time I could finally meet this legendary General Manager Wang!

As such, we all got up, and I followed behind everyone else. We walked into a conference room, and there were about 50 people inside. Some were from the Development Department, and others were from the Operations Department.

I sat next with Bing Cha on my left, and Summer on my right. Summer looked at the beauties around us, and said admiringly, "The General Manager's Secretary has such a nice figure!"

I looked at Summer, and saw that she was wearing a loose camisole, which revealed quite a bit of her chest. Summer seemed to notice me looking and mischievously smiled, "Shu Sheng, big sister's body is quite nice, huh?"

I replied, "A mountain range from the front and a mountain peak from the side."

Summer didn't understand, so she asked, "What do you mean, Shu Sheng?"

Bing Cha giggled, "He's saying that you can't see much when looking from the front, and you can only see some 'peaks' when you're looking from the side..."

Summer vehemently looked and me, and said, "Shu Sheng's so mean. I'm going to ignore you from now on!"

I chuckled. I didn't like being toyed with by these beauties, so I had to let them know that I wasn't a pushover either!

At this moment, someone suddenly called out, "General Manager Wang is here!"

I looked up, and saw a handsome-looking, yet nerdy looking man walk in. He had a pale face, slicked hair that was parted in the middle, and was wearing an expensive-looking suit.

I was slightly surprised, "This is General Manager Wang?"

Bing Cha replied "That's right. This is one of the bigshots of our company,

Wang Junjie. He has Master degrees from Cambridge and Harvard, and was headhunted to be the General Manager of our Bluestar Group!"

Summer smiled, "General Manager Wang's also very young-I heard he's only 28!"

I was quite shocked. He was only older than me by 4 years, and yet he had risen to such a prominent position. This Wang Junjie was quite impressive!

Wang Junjie sat down at the conference table and asked, "Is everyone here?"

Beside him, the Supervisor of the Marketing Department replied, "Director Ling isn't here yet; everyone else is here."

"Oh? Ah Yue still isn't here?" Wang Junjie referred to her in an affectionate manner, as if they were very close. [TLN: Sometimes, if someone wants to refer to another person affectionately, they might use 'Ah' and then the person's name (e.g. Ling Yue = Ah Yue). This is usually used from parents to children, or between good friends or lovers]

I was slightly surprised, and asked, "What's his relationship with Ling Yue?"

Bing Cha looked around her and bit her lips, "This idiot Wang Junjie is Director Ling's boyfriend. However, Director Ling doesn't give him much face."

For some reason, I didn't feel quite comfortable. Ling Yue was Ling Xue's twin elder sister, and sometimes I couldn't tell the difference between them. As such, when Ling Yue was in front of me, I would always think that she's Ling Xue. With such a handsome boyfriend jumping in out of nowhere, I felt quite uneased.

Wang Junjie coughed, "Then let's wait for her!"

After 10 minutes, Ling Yue finally arrived. Her hair seemed to be in disarray, as if she had just woken up and rushed over.

What caused everyone to feel even more shocked was that Ling Yue courteously sat down at the seat of the host-the most important position!

I was a bit confused, "A Director is more important than a General Manager?"

"Of course a General Manager is more important!" Bing Cha replied, then

continued to explain, “I can tell what you’re thinking. It’s actually very simple. The boss of the Bluestar Group is Ling Tian, and Ling Yue is Ling Tian’s daughter. As such, Ling Yue is actually the one with the most authority here. As for Wang Junjie, he’s simply someone working for the company. He’s very talented, so Ling Tian treats him well, and is considering to pass on his position to him. As such, he’s willing to accept Wang Junjie as his daughter’s boyfriend...”

I nodded as everything became clearer to me.

Bing Cha continued to talk, “Wang Junjie’s family has been in decline for a while. I’m sure they want to grab on to this opportunity and make sure he marries Ling Yue, so that they have the support of the Bluestar Group. In actuality, Wang Junjie is pretty much just a leech!”

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At this moment, Wang Junjie concernedly looked at Ling Yue and asked, “Ah Yue, are you feeling alright?”

Ling Yue only calmly replied, “Start the meeting!”

Wang Junjie obviously felt a bit awkward, but quickly announced, “Today’s meeting is about our business matters within the game. Spirit of Grief has already been open for two days, and many of our employees have already risen above LV20. In the afternoon, all players above LV20 are to meet at the Twilight City, and all players are required to contribute 5 gold as the initial operation funds.”

Many of the male employees began to nod, whereas many of the female employees began to complain amongst themselves, “I’m not even LV20 yet, and I don’t even have enough gold to learn my skills. It’s completely impossible for me to contribute so much!”

Wang Junjie smiled, and continued to speak, “Those who don’t want to train and level up can take on business within the game: buying and selling shovels, arrows and lumber axes. These people should learn Production Skills, which will be paid for by players who choose to fight and level up. I hope that our Bluestar Group will be able to make a name for ourselves within Spirit of Grief!”

Afterwards, Wang Junjie looked towards Ling Yue, "Ah Yue, what about you?"

Ling Yue casually replied, "I will manage and monitor the employees in the Administration and Operation Departments. I don't want anything to do with other matters."

Wang Junjie was once again coldly blown off. He could only bitterly smile.

At this moment, Ling Yue stood up, and looked towards us, "Bing Cha, Summer and Shu Sheng, come with me to the Development Department; I have things to say to you all."

I was still wondering what was going on when Summer pulled me out of the door. I glanced over, and saw that Wang Junjie's face had darkened. Next to him, the pudgy Supervisor of the Marketing Department smiled at him, "General Manager Wang, don't worry, maybe it's because Director Ling isn't feeling too well today..."

Wang Junjie stared at Ling Yue as she left, his eyes cold.

[TLN: Was anyone else surprised by the boss of the Bluestar Group, 'Ling Tian'? The Chinese characters are written with the same characters as the name of the main character from Shura's Wrath, and given that the author wrote both of these series, it's possible that they're the same person. I guess time will tell!]

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# Chapter 22

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## Crazy Summer

Translator/Editor: Mr Voltaire

Ling Yue leant against a filing cabinet. She was wearing a woman's style suit, and looked absolutely stunning.

Bing Cha sat next to me, looking very casual.

Ling Yue looked over, confirmed that the door was shut, and exclaimed, "What utter nonsense!"

Bing Cha testingly asked, "Director Ling, you mean General Manager Wang?"

Hearing his name, Ling Yue seemed to be a bit uncomfortable. She quietly said, "Never mind him! Does everyone know the situation right now? The company's considering investing large amounts of money into Spirit of Grief to develop top-level players, as well as professional Production players in order to increase business activity within the game. Our Snow Moon office is one of the most elite groups, so I hope that you guys will be diligent and not lose to anyone!"

Afterwards, Ling Yue looked at us, and said, "I want all of you to go home in the afternoon and log on to the game. We'll meet at the Twilight City's Eastern Square – I need to make sure my team is in tiptop shape! If you have any friends who are high level, you can bring them as well. In not too long, we'll have our own mercenary group!"

I suddenly thought of the Sword Flame people, but I decided against inviting them. After all, we were mere acquaintances, and I did not know this Ling Yue very well. My first impression of her was not too great either.

Ling Yue gave us a piece of paper, “All of you write your In Game Names on here; I’ll contact you all within the game!” [TLN: In Game Name = IGN]

We all wrote our name on the sheet of paper. Perhaps it was because I was on the top ten ranking for too little time, so no one knew of me.

Subsequently, Ling Yue told us that the meeting was over.

Half an hour later, I returned home. It was only 1pm, so I drank a cup of water, and had a look at the Spirit of Grief forums. On the homepage was the headline: “Number 1 Female Magician PK Video”!

Was it a battle with Qing Feng Lan Yue?

I became excited, and immediately opened the video. The video loaded, and began playing.

On the screen was five Berserkers surrounding a single Magician. From the visual effects of their equipment, these Berserkers all had Steel grade and above equipment!

The Magician the Berserkers were attacking was evidently a female Magician, but her face could not be seen clearly. However, the four characters above her head shone brightly: Qing Feng Lan Yue!

So it was her!

A fireball exploded, and her body rippled like water as she gracefully escaped from the encirclement. She was completely in control of the battle-no matter how hard they tried, the Berserkers simply could not hit her at all!

Just from this, I could tell that this Qing Feng Lan Yue was an expert of experts.

Fire balls and arrows made of ice flew through the air, and one by one, the Berserkers dropped. What was astonishing was that Qing Feng Lan Yue’s Ice attacks were incredible. A simple Arrow of Ice reduced a LV22 Berserker’s health by more than half! To be able to kill a Berserker in less than three seconds-this was amazing.

The battle only lasted for less than two minutes before the Berserkers were all dead.

As I scrolled down, I saw that this video had caused the forum to explode. Countless players absolutely worshipped this Magician who was ranked number 1 in China and number 3 in the whole world. After all, the game had only been released for a few days, and being able to rush to LV28 wasn't something everyone could do.

OP: Qing Feng Lan Yue: China's Number 1 Female Magician; China's Number 1 Beauty!

Reply2: I love you Qing Feng Lan Yue, my qq is xiaosage@163.com, please message me!

Reply3: Those Berserkers are idiots! Why didn't they aim for the chest?

Reply4: This sort of amazing beauty is so rare! I'd die to be her boyfriend!! But how could such an ordinary guy like me attract her attention?

Reply5: Reply to Anon4: On a dark and stormy night, very gently, very tentatively, hang yourself at the city gates of the Twilight City. Maybe that'll get her attention.

Reply6: (In jealousy): Hmph! That Qing Feng Lan Yue's not even that great. This big sister's figure is even better! (Photo uploaded)

Reply7 (OP): Big sis Reply6.....

Reply8 (Reply6): What's wrong with having a big chest? Why'd you delete my photo?

Reply9 (OP): It's not because it was inappropriate, but... because they were too saggy!

.....

I nearly spat out the water in my mouth. These people were so savage! There were already more than 1,000 replies, and I didn't bother reading through them all.

I quickly closed the forum, put on the helmet and entered the game!

I looked at my account. I was now LV25 with 88 gold coins, but I had dropped to 124<sup>th</sup> in the Level Rankings. The Number 1 Female Magician Qing Feng Lan Yue was now LV30-what an absolute monster!

Returning to the Novice Village, I stocked up on potions, then spent 1 gold to be transported to the Twilight City.

The Twilight City was one of the eight major cities in the China Region. It was a training heaven for low-levelled players. There were many places to train, as well as many NPCs giving out quests!

A light flashed and my surroundings changed. In front of me was an ancient-looking city. There were black tiles and white walls, and shops were lined up on both sides of the main street of the city. There were a few NPC soldiers holding long pikes patrolling around.

I opened the map and found where I was, then looked to where the Eastern Square was. After figuring out how to get there, I jogged over, and turned off the visual effects for all of my equipment. If Zi Yue and Summer saw my good equipment, I'm sure they would rob me for it!

There were not many players in the Twilight City. Most players were still doing their best in the Novice Village. After all, the monsters in Novice Village went up to LV30, which was appropriate for the current stage of the game.

In the distance, there were already a few people standing at the white-bricked Eastern Square.

One was a Fencer, holding a slightly glowing sword. Her ID was “Bing Cha” (meaning Ice Tea). At first, I thought she was one of those cold beauties, but after getting to know her, I found that she had a seemingly cold exterior, but had a warm personality, which was much like her name.

Next to Bing Cha was a little LV21 Archer-evidently, this was Silent Rain. Her equipment wasn’t very good though: she only had a Steel grade bow.

Next to them also stood a person, half of whose body was covered with leather armour. It was a LV20 Assassin: Zi Yue!

Zi Yue was talking to a LV19 Summoner. That person was wearing a magic robe, and holding a magic staff. Her name was “Last Year’s Summer”- of course, she was Summer.

I quickly walked over, “You’re all here already?”

The beauties looked over, and gasped in surprise, “What?! Is this Shu Sheng? Wow, you’re LV25 already!”

I smiled and replied, “Archers level up fairly quickly, so it’s not that amazing...”

Summer immediately charged over and pulled on my arm, “Shu Sheng! Help me train later on, alright? I don’t want to train with Zi Yue anymore. She’s so dumb-last night she died twice!”

I grinned, “Then you have to promise that when you’re training with me, you won’t go flirt with male players from other teams. Otherwise, things might get problematic for me.”

Summer coyly replied, “You’re so bad... do you really think I’m like that??”

In just these few, short days, I had found that Summer was a very coy and flirtatious girl. However, I was not too interested in her. Sure, she was pretty, but she definitely wasn’t my type.

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After a while, Bing Cha spoke, “Why isn’t Director Ling here yet? Could she have run into some trouble? Does anyone know her IGN?”

Everyone shook their heads.

At this moment, a sweet voice sounded out from behind us, “Sorry for making everyone wait!”

We all turned around, and we all became so shocked that we couldn’t utter a single word!

The woman was wearing a flame-red magician's robe, and her hair fluttered in the wind. Through the robe, two large peaks could be seen, and the sexy magician's robe left quite a bit of her snow-white legs uncovered. In front of us was a stunningly beautiful female Magician!

I gulped, and managed to croak out, "Qing Feng Lan Yue..."

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